EMBER
951

# AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

35
ENTS



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6-1 Georgian Terrace
Troy, N. Y.

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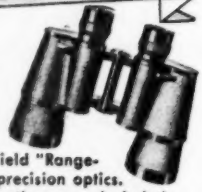

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# AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

*The Rifle 1885-1888*
*Shooting and Fishing 1888-1906*
*Arms and the Man 1906-1923*

Official Journal of the NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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Vol. 99, No. 12 • December 1951



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## COVER

***The hunting scene on the cover this month was made by Fred L. Tonne, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Daylight Kodachrome with a 4x5 Pacemaker Speed Graphic with an 8½ inch Voightlaender Heliar lens, 1/25 second at F:11.***

* NRA Staff in the Service

John Scofield — J. S. Rose — M. D. Waite
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Yours for a merry, merry Christmas,

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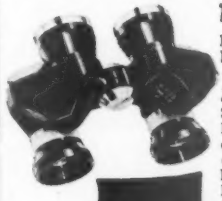

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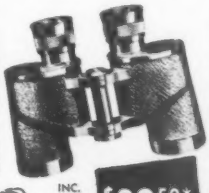

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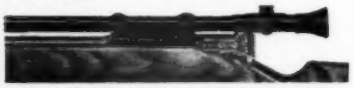
**20-power spotting scope.** All 10 *lens surfaces hard coated,* giving maximum clarity.

**MODEL A** "Spotshot" $27.40

**MODEL A5** Stand $13.25

**MORE** big values! Two excellent 4-power scopes, with patented Internal Adjustments—with all lens surfaces hard coated. Between them they *fit most all makes of rifles up to 25-20 caliber.*



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# InCidenTa/Ly

THE SIGHT of the tall, green, steel cabinet in the room at the end of the hall causes us to sigh. Everytime we pass it, the sight of nearly one hundred volumes—some bound in tattered brown calfskin, some in new shiny black cloth—full of all sorts of information on most any subject relating to guns, makes us hope that we can spend the next life with that cabinet near, researching on guns and shooting in America. Those giant books contain enough gun lore to satisfy any one's taste in reading or shooting. They're the bound volumes of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN from Volume 1, issue No. 1 (May 1885) to Volume 99, issue No. 11 (December 1951).

A lifetime, that's what it would take to locate and put to use all of the information in those volumes. The lack of indices makes the job difficult. If each volume were indexed, one would have no problem digging out information on a specific subject. Or if a cumulative index were available such as was put out recently for the 1940-1950 issues (see page 74), the job would be even simpler. As the volumes are, however, the only way to locate information contained in them is to pick out one volume at random and leaf through the pages, then pull out another volume and turn over the pages of it—an endless task with no assurance that you'll find what you're seeking.

Sometimes, leafing through an old volume makes you feel like a fellow, panning for gold, who suddenly discovers that his pan contains large nuggets of pure ore. That happened to us the other day.

In the midst of preparing the article on page 17, a letter came in asking for information on the benchrest shooting done around 1840 or 1850 by Dr. Pardee. Well, we had to confess to never having heard of Dr. Pardee, nor had anyone else around the office, but we looked through the first few bound volumes of the forerunner of the RIFLEMAN to see whether or not some reference might have been made to him in those early issues. And what did we come across but a long letter from Dr. Pardee himself about some of the benchrest matches he had fired in previous years and, several issues later, a picture and short biographical sketch of Dr. Pardee. Real gold. The picture of Dr. Pardee appears on page 19.

In the same week that the info on Dr. Pardee was found, we turned again, while preparing an article for next month's issue on rifles made by Sir Joseph Whitworth, to those old volumes of the RIFLEMAN as a possible source of information. While leafing through early volumes we stumbled upon a long letter from an Englishman, C. Frederick Lowe of London, who apparently did little more than write to the magazine, if one judges by the number of his letters that were published during the late 1880's. Among numerous subjects Mr. Lowe's letter mentioned that 100 Whitworth rifles were delivered by British blockade-running vessels to the Confederacy during the Civil War for distribution to snipers—or sharpshooters as they were then called in Confederate units. Those Whitworth rifles, Lowe continued, were supplied with two types of telescope sights designed by a Colonel Davidson for use on British rifles during the Crimean War. And darned if there wasn't a line drawing of both types of scopes on Whitworth arms. Again, pure gold. The information and the illustration are being inserted into the article.

Sometimes, when in a hurry, we wish there were available a cumulative index of all the published volumes of the RIFLEMAN such as the one that is now available for the 1940-1950 issues Making one would be a terrific task, but it would be valuable in editing the RIFLEMAN. But other times, we must confess, having those old volumes handy, to leaf through occasionally in search of information, is one of the pleasures in getting out the RIFLEMAN each month.

JH

# OUTDOOR AUTHORITIES Agree

## AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

They recently thoroughly tested three of our quality binoculars under average field conditions and report "Featherweight—the optics are very good—moderately priced—will serve general purposes—a good buy for the money, etc."

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## HUNTING & FISHING

First, their publisher Mr. L. F. McClure, tried our 7X Vest Pocket binoculars and immediately liked them. Then Jim Mitchell, Editor wrote "On my trip west I found ranchers were greatly impressed with your 7x35

## SPORTS AFIELD

"Colonel Townsend Whelen, our camping editor thinks very highly of your binocular. It so happens he has a reader query on them and we are using his favorable reply in his department."

## TRUE

In a recent issue had this to say "For cost, performance and compactness we find these UNITED 6 Power Prism binoculars good for every general purpose."

## Hardware World

Lt. Col. Chas. Askins, Firearms Editor, says "I experimented extensively with your binoculars in dense woods during late evening and early morning—I am very favorably impressed by your amazing light binoculars."

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PROFESSOR J. F. L. PENN. "I have shown the 8x30 glasses to a number of people and you will no doubt be receiving orders from them."

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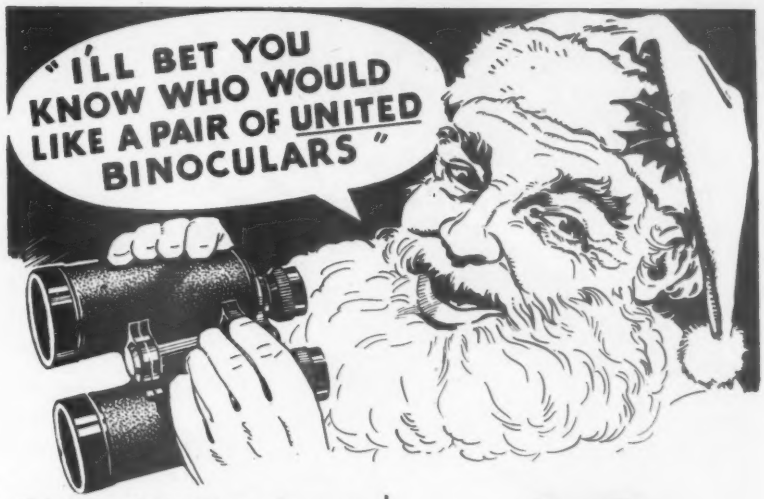
The above and hundreds of letters from pleased customers explain why we say "UNITED is America's Outstanding Binocular Retailer."




## 7 POWER POCKET

Weighs But 6½ Ozs.!

Now Only $21.95

Superior CRAFTSMANSHIP. In a Pocket Size Prism Binocular (not a field glass) we offer a full 7 POWER! Field of 375 ft. at 1000 yds. Precision constructed durable deluxe All Chrome metal. Achromatic lens. COATED. in every detail. Made of lightweight.

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EASY TO HOLD
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Weighs 24 oz.!

COATED. Featherweight. The ultimate in a fine binocular. Tremendous power. Precision made in every detail. COATED providing sharper, brighter images. Moisture-dust proofed. Individual focus. Objective lens is 50mm (2 inches) across!

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Precision made. Sharp, clear images assured. Moisture-dust proofed. Achromatic lens. Have individually focussing eye pieces. Quality glasses in every respect, every detail.

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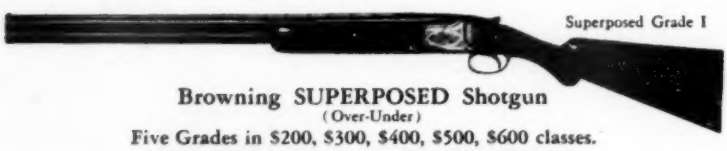

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Browning SUPERPOSED Shotgun
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Five Grades in $200, $300, $400, $500, $600 classes.
Choice of choke combinations: Full, Improved Modified, Modified, Improved Cylinder, Skeet, Cylinder.
Models for Trap, Skeet, Field, Marsh.
12 or 20 gauge.

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for
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Retirement
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# Ricochets . . .

## GUN LAWS

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Editor:

The article in the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN (Nov., p. 17) on "Gun Laws in England" by Mr. Harry Wandrus and Bernard T. Hinchley certainly was news to me. I had no idea that anything like that existed in any of the countries fighting the Communist influence, least of all in 'good old England', the so-called birthplace of human rights. Let me tell you, I'm sure glad I am an American.

We Americans take too many things for granted, and therefore other groups put things over on us almost before we realize it. Right here in Fort Wayne a thing has happened that I believe shooters should know about. . . . A partially blinded war veteran lives on a small piece of ground, growing, among other things, watermelons. When one night, in an attempt to protect his crop, he turned a flashlight on three youths who were stealing his melons, one of them grabbed the light. In the struggle over the light, a shotgun the veteran was holding in the other hand went off, the thief was injured. The blind veteran was fined $100.00 and costs.

The thing that bothers me is that, according to the verdict, a person is liable to being arrested for using a gun to protect his property, whether it is watermelons or silverware in his home. You would think that the trend of thought is to call the police and let them handle it, but how long would an intruder in your home wait around if you told him, "Wait, now, I'm calling the police." It is just one of the slow, sly ways that certain individuals, thinking as they do, try to get all guns and rifles out of the hands of the individuals here in our country.

R. M. CHERRINGTON

Greensboro, North Carolina

Editor:

I have just read with much disgust the article on English Gun Laws. . . .

How can these Britishers so shamefully retard rifle shooting among the people and then, when in time of distress, yell for help?

Shameful as the English set-up may be, the best lesson for us is the warning voiced by the writer of those letters. Let's keep an eye and ear open for petty politicians' mumbo-jumbo firearms talk over here.

JIM WOMMACK

Brussels, Belgium

Editor:

I appreciate very much your campaign against foolish gun laws. Could those people trying to make them pass have stayed here in Belgium during the German occupation, they would have understood the stupidity of gun laws.

There was a death penalty or at least concentration camp punishment for the possession of even the smallest .22 pistol but nevertheless (not to speak of the Resistance) a lot of people kept guns of every description hidden and former shooters or gun nuts did as well. Of course, if you got caught, you had to take what came.

Continue your campaign, it is the only

*(Continued on page 8)*

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*(Continued from page 6)*

way of keeping bandits and commies in their holes, because they do not like armed citizens. In big crises police are always inadequate and instead of disapproving private weapon ownership they would do better to perfect their marksmanship.

G. RICHTER

## STOCK CRADLES

Philadelphia, Penn.

Editor:

That fine issue of the RIFLEMAN for November has just come to hand.

I am very much interested in the article "Cradle That Stock" (page 32) by Jennings B. Rader.

One feature I would like some information on—namely, how to keep proper tension on tail-stock screw when rotating the stock in the cradle. The screw turns with the rotation of the stock, but the nut for making adjustments is stationary in the tail stock. Any motion of the screw, therefore, increases or decreases the tension of the stock in the cradle.

MYRON L. SHALLCROSS

● *Tension is important in holding the work rigid. You are correct in saying that every motion of the screw will increase or decrease the tension. However, I have worked quite a few stocks on this rig and I have had no trouble with tension. If the work is pulled up snugly, a half turn, or even a full turn will not noticeably affect the tension.*

*I suppose every day we learn. Only a few days before your letter was sent to me I ran into the exact problem you outlined.*

*Last week, I started work on a full length stock with a square fore-end tip of ebony. As you know ebony chips easily and the square shape will not stand much twisting. Tension, therefore, could not be as tight as on ordinary types. Your answer is to take a steel ball (from a bearing) about ½ inch not over ¾ inch. With a sharp pointed knife make a shallow seat for the ball about one inch below the top butt plate screw hole in the butt. Now set the stock in place and the ball will ride on the four points of the tightening screw. The stock will ride on the ball bearing. If, as in my case, you have a square fore-end, stuff an old sock into the cup to protect it.*—JENNINGS B. RADER

Kansas City, Mo.

Editor:

I am sure the cradle (Nov., page 31) is a very good one. But why not make a simpler one. Made with 2-inch by 4-inch material, three ¼-inch bolts 4½ inches long, a piece of leather the size of your palm, and a 10-inch piece of ¾-inch dowel (I used a piece of old mop stick), it works perfectly. Bore a ¾-inch hole 1½ inch deep in butt of stock and insert end of dowel. Adjust to stock length by sliding either or both end blocks and loosening and tightening the two bottom bolts. With other bolt adjust friction on dowel so stock may be turned against friction.

BRYCE POE

## YELLOW & SILHOUETTES

Utica, Penn.

Editor:

The article by Dr. Schweisheimer ("Color-Blind Hunters") touches on what I have been fighting for for over fifteen years. It is a little known fact to hunters that there are people who can not see red in green woods. I know from my own experience; you see I am red-green blind.

Now I want to take issue with the doctor; he is in error when he says green is the most promising color for color-blind people. Yellow is the color to use on all hunters, as I have never found a hunter who could not see my bright yellow hunting coat.

I could go on almost indefinitely quoting arguments against red and urging yellow for hunters.

W. R. McCay

Bremerton, Washington

Editor:

Whoever heard of a color-blind hunter (Nov., page 41) shooting another hunter for a deer? They shoot at silhouettes—not color. No horns—no shoot.

Nine hundred and ninety-nine hunters are wearing red hats, and sometimes red coats. The other 1,000th is shot by a long-range gun, and completely out of sight-range of the shooter.

The moving brush shooter is the most deadly. He doesn't see anything except brush movement. Mostly, it is somebody's cow or horse, occasionally a hunter, color doesn't count with him.

C. E. Dixon

## FAGIN'S BALANCE

North Sacramento, Cal.

Editor:

I was much interested in Theodore Fagin's article "One Way To Do It" in November.

The design of Mr. Fagin's balance could be altered slightly to give an improvement in performance. A down-curved beam such as he used results in decreasing sensitivity with increasing load. The three knife edges (razor blade and beads in this case) should be exactly parallel and in the same plane and the beam rigid enough that there will be no bending with the loads to be used. The sensitivity will then be independent of the load. . . .

Jack H. Wyatt

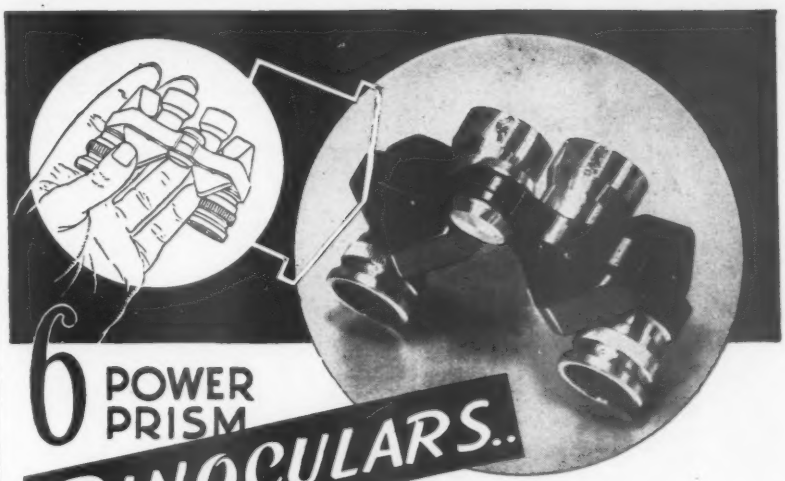
Waco, Texas

Editor:

"One Way To Do It" is a type of article which I enjoy. However, Mr. Fagin made a slight error. An aspirin tablet contains 5 grains of aspirin (acetyl salicylic acid) but does not weigh 5 grains. The actual weight (I checked several aspirin tablets) runs around 6.8 to 7 grains. The extra weight is due to a filler which goes into the making of the tablets.

I thought this might serve as a warning to some beginner who might use 8 aspirin tablets to balance a supposedly 40 grains of powder and end up with 50 or more grains in the case.

Why not take No. 9 shotgun shot, or some similar, and get a druggist to check the weight of ten or twenty, then calculate the weight of each and from there it would

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We had been planning on returning the price this month to our authorized ceiling price. BUT, that didn't seem Christmas-like, so again and perhaps for the last time, we offer them to American Rifleman readers at the BELOW CEILING PRICE of only $16.95 plus Federal tax.

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JAMES L. GILLELAND

## A COMMENDATION

Gresham, Oregon

Editor:

After reading "Ricochets" and not finding a soul commending G. L. Hutton's article "Revolver vs. Automatic Pistol", I would like to add a tenth consideration. Suppose you were a police officer entering a building or a riot outside with your single-action revolver or automatic in your hand cocked and ready for business. As you step through the door, someone plants his big foot in your stomach. The first thing you're going to do is pull the trigger and hurt someone, good or bad.

That is the only thing I can see wrong with our present day automatics—no double action.

JIM YOUNG

Editor:

After reading the comments on the article "Revolver vs. Automatic Pistol" I have this to say: As an ordnance man of 17 years, I have always found revolvers a more difficult maintenance problem than semi-automatics when both guns are used extensively. Most of the feeding troubles of semi-automatics are caused by magazine clips that have been dropped or otherwise abused. And finally it is easier for a novice to abuse a revolver than a semi-automatic pistol.

To be fair, let us compare an American semi-automatic pistol with an American revolver equal caliber and quality; I have found them equally reliable. The case for the automatic is that it feels more natural to hold because the grip is situated more nearly at the center of weight, it is faster to use in aimed rapid fire, it is shorter, flatter, and more quickly reloaded. As for accuracy, ask the hot-shot .45 caliber boys why they don't use revolvers.

CHARLES E. SLATER
Chief Gunner, USN

## AUSSIE SHOOTER

90 Market Street
Essendon W5
Melbourne, Australia

Editor:

I am an Aussie shooter and subscriber to the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN and I would like to write to a couple of American shooters, preferably about my own age (19 years), on guns and hunting.

We shoot deer, pigs, goat, kangaroos, fox, etc., and of course ducks and quail.

RAY G. COOPER

## EDITORIALS

Custer City, Oklahoma

Editor:

Wonder if you will send us ten to twenty-five copies of November article entitled "'What Price National Security?"

G. G. HOSTUTLER

● *We are glad to send reprints of "Rifleman" editorials to anyone who desires them. Also, if you desire to give these editorials wider circulation, any magazine or newspaper is welcome to reprint it.—Ed.*

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# CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP—AND YOU!

If, as the majority of our military leaders believe, it is the rifleman who, in the final anaylsis, carries the fight to the enemy and clinches the decision; if, as provided by the National Security Service and Training Act, every one of our sons must become a part of the armed forces for a definite period of his life; if, as now seems probable, the next world war will involve our entire society, require greater masses of manpower than ever before, and bring the fighting to our home-land; and if, as the records of World War II indicate, only two percent of our male population are familiar with weapons and have had training in marksmanship; isn't it time to make a real effort to create that 'nation of marksmen' which made the United States possible and which we must again become if we are to survive? This is primarily a civilian task—a task for the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and for the National Rifle Association of America.

In a letter elsewhere in this issue of the RIFLEMAN, Colonel R. C. Bing, GSC, Army, has said:

> ". . . During the last year (1950), training programs could not reflect the number of hours considered desirable for proper training in marksmanship. This limitation of time was not caused by any desire to slight this type of training, but was necessitated by the need of rapid training of battle replacements in all essential subjects during the short training time available. . . ."

This situation is not unique. It has happened before in our national history, and it probably will occur in the future. No one knows better than I how necessary it is to build up the strength of the combatant units of our Armed Forces in days of emergency, or how often this must be accomplished at expense of adequate training of the individual.

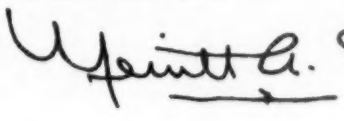
In Switzerland, in Finland, and in the Norse countries, this problem is met by the statutory requirement that each youth shall be taught how to shoot under the instruction of his local rifle club prior to the time he reaches the age for induction into their compulsory military service. Further, when he has completed his time on active duty and returns to his home in a reserve status, he must maintain his proficiency in marksmanship by firing an annual requalification course under the supervision of his local rifle club so long as he is liable for service in the defense of his country. Such a system insures that the individual will already be trained in marksmanship when called to service either initially or later as part of the reserves. Under such a system the time ordinarily allocated to marksmanship training at the mobilization center can be devoted to other subjects or the man can be assigned to a combatant unit at an earlier date. It has proven less costly in dollars and cents; and its efficiency was amply demonstrated by the Finns in their war against the Soviets in 1939.

If such a system had been in effect within the United States there would have been no reason for the story which appeared in the October 26th edition of the *Boston Post* which told of the death of a boy sent into combat in Korea without ever having once shot a rifle in practice. "Then one day," the story reads, "they . . . told him to get ready for overseas combat in Korea. . . . George didn't even have a rifle in his hand until he was aboard ship. *He didn't have a chance over there. . . .*" (Italics supplied—Ed.)

If such a system had been in effect in the United States there would have been no cause for Colonel C. M. Boyer, Assistant Executive Director of the Reserve Officers' Association, to say not long ago that: "In July, August, September and October of last year (1950), thousands upon thousands of members of the volunteer and inactive Reserve were placed on active duty and within three weeks from the time they reported for duty they were casualties in Korea. If we are going to throw them into conflict that quickly, as we may often have to do, then we should give them a sufficient amount of training *so they can at least protect themselves to a certain extent.*" (Italics supplied—Ed.)

The framework around which universal marksmanship training can be built in this country is already in existence. The law already provides that rifle ranges under control of the regular services and the national guard shall be made available whenever possible for marksmanship training of civilians. The National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice is already charged by law with the encouragement of rifle practice throughout the United States, particularly in the direction of qualifying as finished marksmen those individuals who may be called upon to serve in time of war. The National Board already has statutory authority for recommending to Congress the construction of ranges, both indoor and outdoor, where none now exist, and for providing arms and ammunition and target materials to civilians engaged in marksmanship training. The National Rifle Association has almost eight thousand senior and junior rifle and pistol clubs scattered throughout the country, ready-made to assume the task of instruction. All that is needed to convert this framework into the structure of universal marksmanship training that has proved so successful elsewhere is a very slight modification of existing law. Even without that change, much can be done if only the people and Congress will recognize the important part trained marksmen play in national security, and will insist that the National Board carry out the functions prescribed for it under law.

It is not my intent to imply that the ability to shoot straight is the beginning and the end of national security. Marksmanship training is only one facet of the myriads which comprise the defense of this country. *But it is that part of national security which affects the individual more directly than any other!* Whenever soldier is pitted against soldier—or armed civilian against an armed invader—it is the one who has been best trained to shoot who survives. If a man knows his weapon and if he has confidence in his ability to use it, he can 'at least protect himself to a certain extent' and he can 'have a chance over there.'



**FORCES OF TYRANNY REMEMBER HISTORY IN TERMS OF THE MAN WITH A RIFLE. IS THE MEMORY OF FREE MAN SO SHORT? ASKS THIS NRA CONVENTION SPEECH**

# The Man With a Rifle

**By Representative Donald L. Jackson**
**16th Congressional District, California**

THE TITLE "The Man With A Rifle" is, I think, apropos to this gathering at the convention of the National Rifle Association because perhaps no other symbolic figure in all history of mankind has made so great a contribution to human freedom; so great a combination to the cause of human dignity as has the man with a weapon in his hand—an individual dedicated in his heart and in his soul to high ideals and high principles.

Men with rifles have, since time immemorial, toppled tyranny and oppression, established fundamental truths, and won and time again rewon basic liberties for mankind. While great masses of men with rifles, as we know armies to be, are important, it is not of armies or of organized, trained, disciplined units of men that I will speak tonight, because on many occasions in the history of the world these groups, through fear or through discipline, have been held captive

by those who pursued unjust causes, and they, the armies, have been used as the instruments of tyranny on many occasions. This has never happened so far as the individual man with a rifle is concerned. The individual within the precepts of law and established custom, who in dignity and in honesty has wielded his weapons in defense of principles and ideals, has never become captive. He, perhaps more than any other force or any army, is today the custodian of human freedom. He is the individual. He is the man with a rifle.

It is his power, perhaps more than any other power that has ever been known throughout the history of our world, that tyranny has feared; feared perhaps as much as the force of his ideals, as the force of his principles is the force of the weapon, but realizing that the two together make a tremendous impact on governments and upon philosophies, that individual has been feared by the forces of tyranny.

I point out as an example that only after the low countries had fallen and after France had fallen before the Nazi military might, the conquerors had no great difficulty in directing and in controlling the armies which had fallen captive to them; but, the man with a rifle, the individual, the man of principle who operated through the underground in defense of the basic and fundamental human rights, was a man who brought more terror and more difficulty to tyrants and to oppression than did all the conquered armies. They were the underground fighters for freedom, the underground fighters for human rights.

Let us consider for a moment the nature of this liberty which we so frequently take as a matter of course, as something which belongs to us by virtue of divine right. We should remember that at the dawn of recorded history in the Valley of the Nile there was no liberty; there was no freedom. The relationship between men in that day was a relationship as between slave and master. It might be exemplified as a whip on the one hand and the bare human back on the other. There were in those days—largely because there was no tradition of freedom, of liberty, of dignity—there were no men with rifles, and only a very few with crude clubs and spears and slings. What was true in the Valley of the Nile was also true in Yucatan, in Babylon, in China, and every other country of civilization. The individual was nothing. He was accorded no place in the destiny of the state, and all of the arms that were available were held in the custody of the palace or of the temple.

There was only the mass of humanity which was required to toil the great blocks of granite down the Nile River and hoist them into place on the Pyramid of Cheops or raise the tremendous statues of Ramses II in the Valley of the Kings; simply a mass of human beings, a mass of human slaves. There was only the command of the master and the blind obedience of the vassal. The man with a rifle was still far in the future.

It was not until the time of the great migrations across the vast steppes of Western Asia that for the first time the individual commenced to have a feel of life, a feel for liberty, and an innate yearning toward the finer things of life, and it was during these same mass migrations that he as an individual came into possession of weapons for the first time. With the crude arms that he had with which to protect his flocks and his families, he assumed a new stature, new responsibilities, new obligations. It was true that even then the pharaohs and the rulers still held the arms and still controlled the destinies of the peoples of the earth, but there was trouble ahead for the tyrants because man had finally achieved that status in which a new power was at his hand.

During that period men acquired for the first time the feeling of individual strength, and government, as such, entered an entirely new phase as between the governed and those who ruled. True, the old order died hard and it died slowly, and for the large part throughout the ancient world the whip was still the master; but there was a bright and shining light on the horizon which was to become in the course of years the city-state of Athens, a light which was spreading across the Mediterranean, and which was to give birth to a new concept of the ancient relationship between men and the relationship between governments. In Athens, the city-state was born, and out of centuries of darkness, out of centuries of human indignity, there emerged this new concept, and with the emergence of a new era there came new rights which were from that point on to be a part and parcel of the prerogatives of man. Those rights were born out of force, and those rights were for 500 years maintained by the men of Athens upon their shields and upon the tips of their spears. What was happening in Athens spread across the then-known world, and the despots and tyrants trembled because men with personal weapons threatened the traditional rule of all power in the hands of a few. Great dynasties sought the overthrow of Athens, sought to put down what was happening there.

The hordes of Persia marched against Athens, and it was the individual citizen who was called upon to take his

weapon, go forth to Salamis and Marathon to maintain human freedom; this the citizens of Athens did willingly and well.

As there were men in Athens of the stature of Socrates, of Aristotle and Plato, the high road to human freedom became more clear and became more inevitable. Greece flowered and gave the world a great heritage. However, as we all know, Greece fell in spite of its citizen army; in spite of the new concept, and it fell simply because the citizens of Athens, the free men, the men who had given this new concept, forgot their responsibilities as citizens. They forgot that the right to bear arms by the citizen was not a divine right, and they delegated the priceless and hard-won privilege to slaves who were from that day on to bear the arms of Greece. And so, Athens fell, and the Roman Empire came into being.

I might say that no nation in the history of the world has ever fallen because its citizens held and knew how to use weapons. Nations have fallen only because, having the right to possess, to hold, and to use weapons, the citizens neglected the right and took their liberty for granted.

We enjoy the fruits of liberty today because generations of men and women since time immemorial have been willing not only to live for freedom but to die for it if necessary. Weapons are important, but weapons are only a part of the over-all requirement for the maintenance of citizenship, of freedom, and of liberty. The man with the rifle, the Minute

Man so familiar in our history, has had his grim counterpart in history: Attila the Hun, Genghis Khan, Adolph Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and today Joseph Stalin. All were tyrants who have had plenty of men and plenty of weapons, but no spiritual ammunitions.

Yes, weapons are important. The spears of Athens were sharp. They were sharp enough to bring about a turn in the course of human history, but it was the ideals of Athens, the ideals of the citizens of Athens that gave effect to those spears. The muzzleloaders of the pilgrim fathers were effective in their day, but the principles of the pilgrims steadied their aim and aided their purposes.

I should say in talking of the man with the rifle that there is more than one kind of rifle. There is, for instance, the unerring rifle of truth, the microscopic lands of facts, the steel of loyalty, the trigger mechanism of justice, the sights of equity—all of those things contribute to a rifle which has nothing to do with steel or with mechanism. In the same vein, all men with rifles are not of the Minute Man class, and I say very reverently the Savior of Mankind could probably never have competed at Camp Perry or any other international match, but that the moral rifle of His ideas changed history more than did any series of world conflicts ever concluded. All of the M-1's, all of the Winchesters, all of the Springfields, all of the high-powered weapons of today could not have brought about what happened at Yorktown in our early history, or made it possible for Washington and his men to survive the winter at Valley Forge, except as they were supported by faith in and dedication to loyalty and to to their country.

You all remember the picture of the first Thanksgiving: the pilgrims at prayer giving thanks for the harvest, giving thanks with divine providence in their souls and their muzzleloaders ready at hand.

The man with the rifle is today vital to the life of this republic. He has in his possession and he knows how to use the weapons of freedom. Any effort on the part of government or on the part of any other agency or individual to restrict the use by private citizens of the weapons that are guaranteed to him in the Constitution should be opposed and resisted to the utmost. The liberty and freedom of America rest not only on intelligent possession and use of the weapons of defense, but upon the knowledge of why they should be used in defense.

It is true that modern war has to a large extent moved into a phase where the attack today may come at any time from any quarter. It presents not only a situation which requires vigilance behind the lines, but requires it in cities and towns and communities which only a few years ago would have been considered immune to attack.

The man with the rifle is, of course, the key to civilian defense. His proper function should be exercised as augmenting the armed forces, as augmenting his police department, to be in every way integrated into the forces of defense and into the forces of freedom.

It is a shocking thing to realize that out of all of the millions of men who were called to the color in World War II, only two percent had ever had any experience with firearms, and of that two percent, it is also gratifying to know that a great proportion of them were young men who had their previous training under the auspices and in one of the activities of the National Rifle Association.

We are today engaged in a great struggle, a struggle for the hearts and the minds of men. It is a new version of the old struggle between freedom and slavery. While it is a collective fight to the extent and degree that all of us are concerned in it as citizens of this nation, it is also an individual fight. It is a fight not only with weapons, but a fight with ideas, with propaganda. Those who are most dedicated are those who will in the final analysis win the victory. We must each of us bring to the battle, to the struggle that lies ahead, a fanaticism directed to meet the fanaticism of the enemy, a dedication to the ideals, to the principles of American life which will be sufficient in weight and volume to overcome the dedication of those who pledge their allegiance to other and alien philosophies.

We must all serve where and how we can. We, of course, must have a large and effective fighting force, but behind that fighting force must stand a trained citizenry. It is not too much to say that freedom in the final analysis today may be represented as a rifle standing in the corner of a closet or a pistol hanging upon the wall of a den or study.

The Government should certainly aid in this effort. If we are to have an effective source of manpower, not only to act as a pool for the armed services, but to aid police agencies behind the lines here at home, we must have a nation of individuals who know how to handle weapons effectively.

While that can be done in some cases on an individual basis, where it can in some cases come as the natural desire of the young man to engage in target practice and things of that sort, it can come better under the auspices of men who are trained in the work, who know where they are going, what the cost is going to be, and how best to conduct the programs. That is why the National Rifle Association fills a great need in America at the moment. There are many facets to the work being done that are too numerous to mention at this time. Suffice it to say if the National Rifle Association were having no other effect on our national life than that of bringing about a decrease, especially where the clubs are the most active, in the matter of juvenile delinquency, that, in itself, would serve a great cause in our national life.

Those who would—and there are many of them—strip the citizen of his right to have and to use personal firearms are certainly misdirecting their misguided efforts. Certainly, we should curtail the criminal use of weapons, but as the National Rifle Association has so well proved, there is no necessity for restricting the legal use of firearms.

Push-button war is not just around the corner. It still is a long way off. Even in the day of the atom, the man with the rifle must remain the consolidating force, the man who can and who will hold what is won, the man who can repulse the attacks of the invaders who are attempting to consolidate their own gains. Guns are the heritage of America. We are a nation whose early history is inextricably interwoven with the use of weapons. The dedicated use of Americans to the principles of freedom and to the use of the personal weapon

in defense of those principles made us a great nation. Those same things have continued to maintain us strong in a world of turmoil.

We can best remember the history of the world if we remember it in terms of the man with the rifle. The forces of tyranny remember, and is the memory of free men so short? ◆ ◆ ◆

# ARMY MARKSMANSHIP

THE ARTICLE "Marksmanship and the U. S. Army," published in the June 1951 issue of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, caused a stir among readers. When NRA member George V. Thomson, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, read the report, he was disturbed by the apparent inadequacy of the instruction in the use of a rifle given to soldiers. Obtaining eleven copies of the article, Mr. Thomson distributed them to congressmen from his state. One of the representatives from Minnesota, the Honorable Walter H. Judd, contacted the Department of the Army on the matter of Army training with the rifle, and received from Colonel R. C. Bing, GSC, Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, the following letter:

"The editorial published by the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, entitled "Marksmanship and the U. S. Army," has been carefully reviewed and studied. During the last year training programs could not reflect the number of hours considered desirable for proper training in marksmanship. This limitation of time was not caused by any desire to slight this type training, but was necessitated by the need for rapid training of battle replacements in all essential subjects during the short training time available. In July 1951, when the replacement situation became such that the training cycle could be extended from fourteen weeks to sixteen weeks, the time devoted to rifle marksmanship training was immediately increased from sixty hours to seventy-eight hours.

The present system of marksmanship training in the Army is sound. The training methods taught were developed by marksmen of world renown and have not only been used by coaches in the training of national and international championship teams, but by successful commanders of combat units. With these methods as a basis and only after known distance firing is completed, battlefield marksmanship training is continued on a transition range. Although on some transition ranges, due to real estate limitations, the target pits may disclose the location of targets, still the exact ranges are not known to the firer and he does not know from behind which mound his next target will appear. Ranges vary from 125 to 500 yards during the firing of this course. This type firing is preparatory training for combat firing problems which, in turn, continue to prepare the soldier for combat. However, it is emphasized that the soldier is first taught to fire accurately at point targets. Only after this is accomplished is he then taught the principles of fire distribution over hostile areas.

Tables of Organization and Equipment (of the Army) provide one man in each rifle squad as a sniper. However, due to the shortage of basic training time, he must receive his special sniper training after he joins his unit and not in the short period of sixteen weeks devoted to basic and individual training. The initial selection and subsequent training of a sniper is considered of utmost importance. It is time consuming and is done in the unit, and not at the training centers, to achieve the best results.

It is unfortunate that the author of the article did not observe the regular course of rifle marksmanship. The course observed was a refresher course for officers, all with prior service, who had been trained previously as officers and instructors. This particular course is for the purpose of refreshing the student's memory in all subjects and one subject is not emphasized over any other.

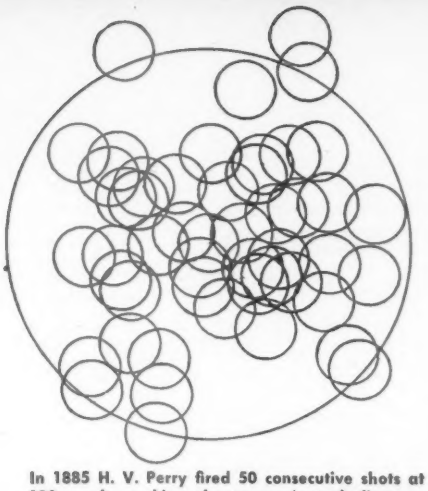
To further interest in accurate shooting the Department of the Army is having developed rifle and pistol teams on an Army-wide basis and is strongly encouraging Army Commanders to intensify the emphasis on competitive shooting at the unit level in their areas.

The Army is appreciative of the efforts of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN and the National Rifle Association in promoting good marksmanship. Their interest and the interest of the Members of Congress in this subject is of great assistance to Army Field Forces in the furtherance of this program.

In closing, it is interesting to note that every inductee during his basic military training receives seventy-six hours of instruction in and qualification with his individual weapon and an additional sixteen hours of "Technique of Fire and Combat Firing" with the same weapon. This is sufficient training to enable the average inductee to perform his combat duties in a satisfactory manner. *(Continued on page 37)*

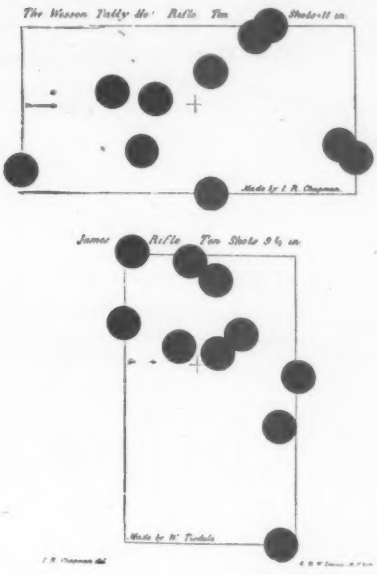
**Armed with a sniper's rifle, Pfc E. W. Stone seeks the enemy on the flank of his advancing infantry division**

**One GI loads his M-1 as another aims at the enemy in front of the advancing 24th Infantry Division in Korea**



In 1885 H. V. Perry fired 50 consecutive shots at 220 yards, making the group (actual diameter of circle 3 inches) reproduced here. At that time, it was the smallest group made in a public match

In 1848, John R. Chapman reported these as smallest groups he had any knowledge of. Sizes are 11 and 9⅝ inches




**WHY HAVEN'T MODERN RIFLEMEN BEEN ABLE TO GET AS GOOD ACCURACY AS OLDER SHOOTERS?**

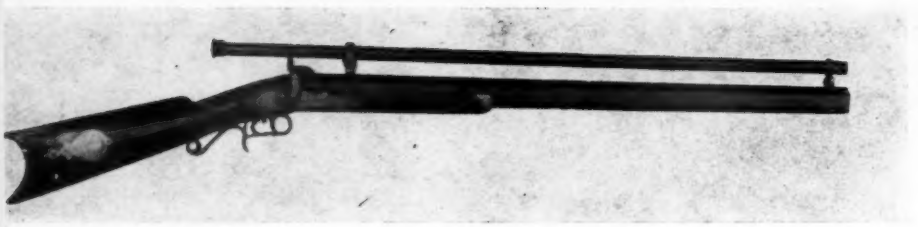
# How Accurate Is the Modern Rifle?

**By Peyton Autry**

Modern benchrest rifle in .250 Christy caliber (R. W. Christy, 875 57th St., Sacramento, Cal.) stocked with laminated blank by Herb Roll, 1727 Wichita, Wichita, Kansas. Christy reports ¼-inch groups at 100 yards with the rifle

SINCE BEFORE the War Between the States, American riflemen have been striving to improve on target accuracy in rest shooting. The target shooters of that era set about 'making targets' of remarkable accuracy with their heavy percussion-lock bench guns. Many of these shooters and their rifles made up Colonel Berdan's famous Sharpshooters as a very effective long-range sniping operation. Following the war, many men took up the serious study of the target rifle both by experiment and competitive sport, usually mixing the two. The heavy caplock muzzleloader with its long scope, false muzzle, starter, heavy slug bullet, and other accoutrements was the most used rifle for accuracy work until at least about 1880, when the breech-loading cartridge gun began to compete with it. The caplock began to lose out in popularity to the breechloader just before the turn of the century. However, it was still used, probably just as effectively, after that time. Some of the makers and users of these early caplock slug rifles were, to name them at random: Perry, Brockway, Warner, Billinghurst, Lowe, Walker, and others. These rifles ranged in weight from 15 to 75 pounds and .35 to .60 caliber.

About 1870, the breechloader came into its own as a target rifle (developed as a single shot prior to the Civil War, and later during the war as both a single shot and repeater cartridge gun). These guns and their users came to international attention during the 70's through the famous Creedmoor long-range matches. The shooting was prone, back, and belly positions, at ranges of 500 and 1,000 yards. The rifles used for the back positions had barrels of 34 inches or over resting on the shooter's ankles and long vernier sights on the heel of the stock. Others had interchangeable positions for the sight on either the tang or heel. These rifles were seldom used for accuracy experiments because for the most part they were large calibers burning sometimes over 100 grains of black powder, and they were not as heavy as the caplock slug rifle for bench work. Nevertheless, they were very accurate. Most of these



.50 caliber slug rifle by L. N. Walker of type used prior to 1880 for bench-rest and offhand shooting. It is fitted with a 16-power scope by Sidle

Schuetzen rifle of type popular before the turn of the century. One pictured here with 12-power Sidle scope was made by Harry M. Pope

About 1870 rifles such as this .40-70 Sharps straight caliber Remington-Hepburn Creedmoor were popular with shooters seeking accuracy

guns, unlike most caplocks, were made by the larger gun firms, some of which grew out of the Civil War and the post-Indian wars. These were the Sharps Side Hammer and Borchardt, Remington Rolling Block and Hepburn, Maynard, Marlin (Ballard), Peabody-Martini, and others of equal note. Most of the models produced for this work were named for the Creedmoor Range on Long Island. During and following this period, these same manufacturers, plus others, began to produce rifles on the same basic actions for use in the popular Scheutzen all-offhand shooting of that day.

Prior to that time the Schuetzen shooters had all used lighter versions of the caplock slug gun. Some used ball—some slug bullets, but all had the familiar Scheutzen style stock and usually a palm rest. Some were not so light—weighing up to 20 pounds for offhand work. The breechloader followed these lines in the single-shot action such as the Marlin Ballard, Winchester Hi-Wall, Stevens 44 and 44½, and others. The .32-40 and .38-55 calibers were most popular, and mostly the bullet was seated separately in the bore, either from the muzzle, as in the slug rifle, or through the breech, and always with special tools. The larger rifle companies at this time and for a considerable period thereafter produced the highest quality of workmanship and devotion to the wants of the target shooter than at any other time in the nation's history. It was a sort of happy compromise of getting custom requirements, high-grade workmanship, and a good production quantity all at the same time. Most gun manufacturers of that day had dozens of different models for every need of the sportsman and target shooter. Even the gun catalogs of that day are a joy to behold!

This rifle put into the hands of the experimenter a new tool for improving accuracy. Most of the offhand shooters of that day took to the bench to develop accurate loads. Some, like Dr. Franklin W. Mann, stayed with the bench and became absorbed in the subject of accuracy, as Mann defined it in his book *The Bullet's Flight*: "A study of rifle shooting with the personal element excluded, disclosing the cause of the error at the target." The records of shooting with these single shots still stand unbeaten, but with the modern rifleman getting gradually very close. Many of these rifles were custom built by such famous riflemen as Zischang, Pope, Schoyen, Schalk, and others, and it was usually these guns which were given the tests of accuracy.

All these guns are shot today and their national interests are fostered by the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the American Single Shot Rifle Association. These special organizations are basically children of the National Rifle Association inasmuch as a majority of the members are

All-time record group (actual size), currently measuring .727 inch, was fired on May 16, 1909 by C. W. Rowland of Boulder, Colorado (right)

NRA members. In these rifles and the muzzleloading caplock, one has only to do a thorough job of research to find many records of targets fired by these old-timers with astounding accuracy. To name a few:

J: H. Gardner, Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1893: Slug gun, 10 shots, 110 yards, .70 of an inch—same, but 10 shots at 220 yards, 1.40 inch.

Morgan James, 1859: 9 shots, 110 yards, picket bullet caplock, .38 inch, 6 shots one hole!

H. V. Perry, 1890: Slug gun, 11 shots, 200 yards, 1.30 inch.

Horace Warner: Caplock, 5 shots, 110 yards, fl30 inch.

Norman Brockway: Brockway slug gun, *10 shots, 220 yards, .620 inch.*

Horace Warner: Warner rifle, breech or muzzleloader, 10 shots, 220 yards, .620 inch.

H. Donaldson: 32-40 Zischang, 10 shots, 100 yards, .60 inch.

Sam Clark, Jr.: Pope-Ballard .32-40, 100 yards, 5 shots, .38 inch; 10 shots, .80 inch.

N. H. Roberts, 1935: Maynard .32-35, 10 shots, 100 yards, .75 inch.

C. W. Rowland, 1901: Pope-Ballard .32-40, 10 shots, 200 yards, .727 inch (unchallenged record currently measured target).

Miss Minnie Schenck: Stevens-Pope .32-40, 200 yards, 5 shots, .50 inch.

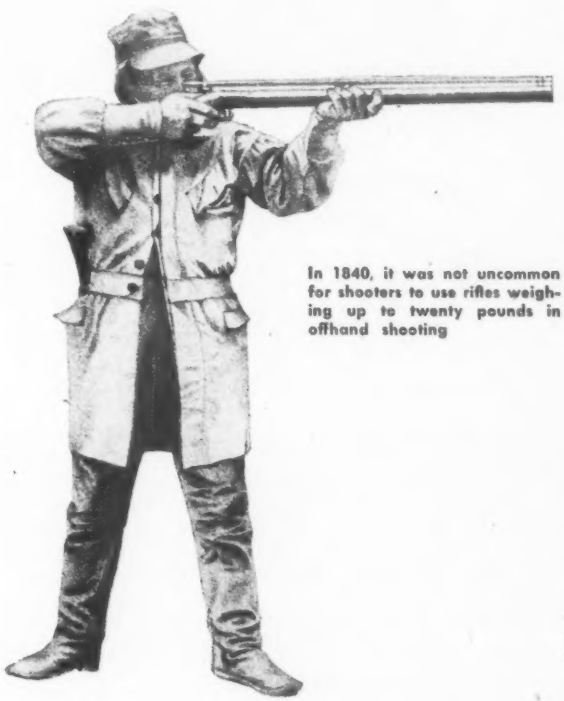
J. D. Kelley: Stevens-Pope .33-40, 10 shots, 200 yards, .90 inch.

Near the turn of the century came the change to the military type bolt-action rifle stemming from the Mauser, Krag, and Springfield patterns using so-called military rifle powders. In this period many of the accuracy nuts and experimenters put their efforts on these rifles and the heavier single-shots using high-power cartridges or souped-up versions of the old cases. It was in this first decade that the 'high-velocity wildcat' got its start.

Afterwards, a great deal of development came about on accuracy-guns as we know them today. Most shooters today are familiar with the present ultimate result. It is the high velocity smallbore target rifle such as the famous .219 Donaldson, .22-250 Varminter, .220 Swift, etc. These are ultra-accurate guns, and the men who shoot them in competition of the National Bench Rest Shooters Association are piling up recordings of accuracy which should set a pattern of progress for the future. The 200-yard, 10-shot group record for these moderns is with a .219 Donaldson, by Jack Snyder of DuBois, Pennsylvania, measuring .766 inch. This falls about of the record *currently measured* target by Rowland with Pope-Ballard 32-40 in 1901, 200 yards, 10 shots, of .727 inch.

This fact, together with some of the other phenomenal targets shot years ago, leads to a great deal of confusion at the present time as to just exactly how much progress has been made in the past 100 years of target shooting. For example, in the afore-mentioned records, is a 10-shot group fired at 220 yards (not 200 mind you) by 'Uncle Norman' S. Brockway with a muzzleloading target rifle of his own make. The late Ned H. Roberts interviewed Brockway for the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN of December, 1936. Brockway described to him the testing of a new muzzleloader for a customer, guaranteed to make 1.50 inch 5-shot groups at 220 yards as follows:

"The first five-shot group measured just .570 on centers.



**In 1840, it was not uncommon for shooters to use rifles weighing up to twenty pounds in offhand shooting**

**Dr. E. H. Pardee, who fired many benchrest matches in years 1840-60, is reported to have fired 10 shot groups at 220 yards which had string measurement of 4⅛ inches**

**H. V. Perry was one of the old-time gunmakers who turned out heavy, scope-sighted slug rifles during the middle 1800's**

Then we put up a new target and I fired the second string, which was only a little larger than the first one and measured just .620 on centers. The customer was greatly pleased with the rifle, and declared it would out-shoot any rifle he had ever seen before. This rifle brought me quite a number of orders for rifles of the same kind, and they all shot nearly as close as this first one."

Ned Roberts goes on to say in this article, "From this example of the super-fine accuracy that was obtained with Brockway rifles more than forty years ago (now 55 years ago),

it will be evident, as I have frequently maintained, that the actual accuracy of our rifles has *not* improved in the least. . . . If anyone doubts this, just let him request Niedner, Griffin & Howe, or any other riflemaker, to build for him a rifle—of any caliber—that they will *guarantee* to make ¾-inch 10-shot groups at 220 yards! The reports of the accuracy of the best of these old-time rifles are not pipe dreams or exaggerations, but can be substantiated by men still living, who have witnessed the shooting of them and can produce actual records and the targets made."

To top it off, Walter Grote, Canton, Ohio, who shoots and owns more slug guns than any living man I know, tells me he has a target by Warner, shot a 220 yards, measuring .62 inch. He has many such actual targets shot by early shooters.

The author, as an aircraft engineer, has long been interested in theoretical ballistics as well as practical shooting. The subject of accuracy has been one to cause him to ponder very much. Considerable study of past and present records has led the author to believe that modern shooters have not, as yet, set an all-time record for accuracy. Actually, the high-velocity smallbores have done less shooting than the old guns, simply because the modern shooters have been at it a much shorter time. The one thing the moderns are leading on at this time is their system of recording targets and information through a central place. In the old days there were a lot of clubs and much shooting, but due to poor communication and transportation many valuable targets and records were undoubtedly lost in later years. Just as a resume let us talk accuracy in terms of minute of angle. The present record of 10 shots

**Best group made by a modern shooter is this one measuring .766 inch, for 10 shots benchrest at 200 yards, fired in May 1950 by Jack Snyder of Martinsburg, W. Va.**

at 200 yards, held by Snyder with .219 Donaldson, is .379 minutes of angle. The Rowland target of 10 shots at 200 yards, fired in 1901, is .363 minutes of angle. The groups fired by Brockway and Warner, by comparison, are .282 minutes of angle.

Is it conceivable that, after 100 years of rifle development, we have not improved accuracy but have actually fallen back? Further, is it possible that we will be able to improve accuracy in the future to an all-time high? It seems unreasonable that we can not—it just isn't the pattern of progress that should normally fall in any field of endeavor. Yet, the records actually show that we have not improved any in the past 60 years. Even Morgan James' group of 9 shots at 100 yards in 1859 (three years *before* the Civil War) amounted to .345 minutes of angle. Making allowances for the shorter distance fired and the lack of one shot, it is still comparable to our best shooting.

In face of these records, the author decided to devise some means by which the accuracy of the varied arms used by shooters over the last one hundred years could be compared. Obviously, such comparison would be in theory only; too, some reports of exceptionally small groups are not and can not be substantiated by targets. The comparison is interesting, however, in providing a basis for judging results reportedly obtained with rifles yesterday and today.

So that the basic differences between types of rifles can be compared, it is assumed that certain things on each type of target rifle were and are equal—

1) that all rifles have barrels heavy enough and stocked sufficiently well that vibrations are kept to a minimum,

2) that human error is assumed to be zero,

3) that a perfect rest is assumed.

These things, which do affect accuracy, are the type of things which can creep into any target rifle. Therefore, to pin down something which would give an indication of relative accuracy, one has to deal with such fundamental but important items as caliber, twist, velocity, and bullet.

Two major items affecting accuracy are compared.

First, a two percent error is assumed to occur in the average velocity (through 100 yards) of several different velocities. The difference of the actual velocity from the intended velocity introduces an error in the point of impact of the bullet on the target. (Variation in velocity means variation in powder, powder weight, primers, and bullet weight.) The error in point of impact for a two percent velocity variation is plotted graphically in Figue 1. The velocity shown is the intended average velocity over 100 yards. The opposite side of the graph is the error on the target due to a velocity of two percent less than the intended velocity. The main thing to note is the relative error, that rifles having lower velocities will have a greater potential error than the high-velocity rifles. That is one point in favor of the modern target arms.

Another approach is in the well-known error in the balance of bullets. A bullet is seldom perfectly balanced through its cross-section. If a bullet is unbalanced longitudinally, it may still be stable in a yaw direction if the center of pressure is aft of the center of gravity and if the bullet is fired through a barrel having the proper twist. However, if a bullet is unbalanced laterally, the center of its mass will revolve about its geometric center until the bullet exits from the muzzle, at which time the geometric center of the bullet will begin revolving about the center of mass. One can imagine the effect of this on accuracy when the bullet is spinning at the rate of some 200,000 rpms—it will generate a centrifugal force which results in a radial or outward acceleration of the bullet from its intended flight path, causing the bullet to rotate in an ever increasing spiral. A small error in balance will produce an acceleration of 200,000 feet per second, the acceleration being directed along the spiral course. The bullet will follow an ever-increasing spiral when the bullet rotation is synchronized. Of course, it is never synchronized, therefore the actual distance the bullet moves from the spiral center is not too simply related to the length of the spiral path, but the length of the spiral path is an indication of relative accuracy. In other words, the condition applies to all calibers, twists, and velocities.

The graph in Figure 2, shows the effect of caliber and barrel twist on the length of the spiral path through a given range. It was found that the spiral length is independent of velocity, but dependent on twist of rifling and caliber of bullet. The error introduced in the calculations used in constructing Figure 2 was an unbalance amounting to two percent of the bullet diameter, the same error introduced into Figure 1. It will be noted in Figure 2 that the slower twists and smaller calibers give the smallest error on the target due to an unbalanced bullet. Figure 2 has nothing to do with the bullet gyrostabilized in flight. Figure 2 simply shows the relative error of an unbalanced cross-section bullet for various twists and calibers. Again, Figure 2 as well as Figure 1 shows the high-velocity smallbore as almost tops, as they are .22 caliber and have about a 14-inch twist in most cases, which gives a very low spiral distance.

The rifle which has the lowest combination of relative error

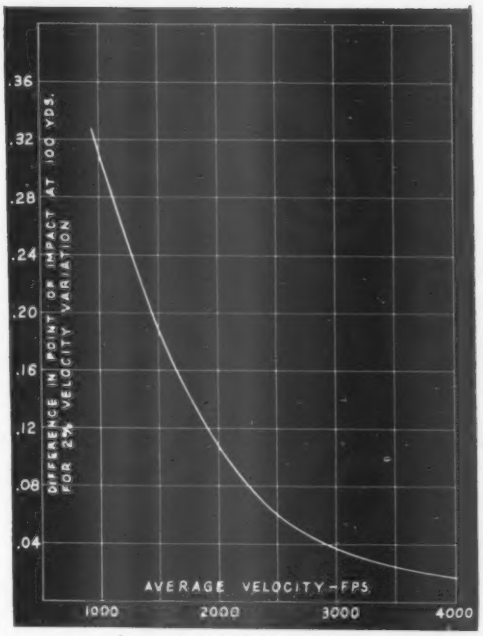



**Fig. 1: Graphic plotting of two percent error variation for average velocity over 100 yards**

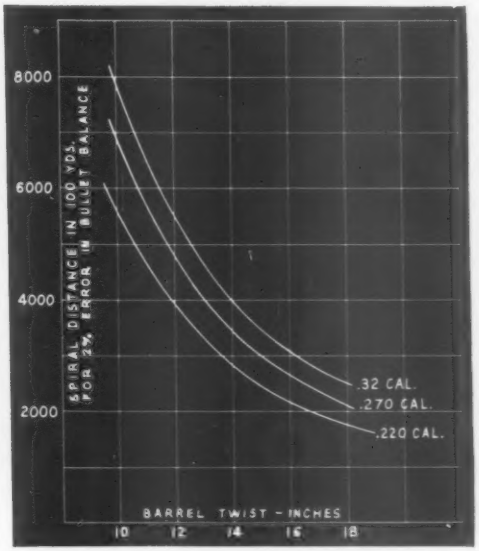



**Fig. 2: Graphic depiction of two percent error of bullet diameter in barrels of different twists**

on Figure 1 and Figure 2 will have the lowest probability of error. Arriving at this conclusion, it is possible to multiply the errors together to get an overall comparison with which to evaluate the best rifle on the basis of velocity variation (variation in powder, powder weight, primers, and bullet weight) together with the effects of bullet balance. The product of the results in Figure 1 and Figure 2, for want of a better name, we call an 'error number'. The lower the error number, the better the accuracy.

At this point it is interesting to make up a table of rifle cartridges and fit them into the framework of calculation of Figure 1 and Figure 2 to see which rifles have the lower error numbers. Each cartridge is listed according to its standard velocity for standard bullet weight and standard twist, at an average over 100 yards. Each is placed in order of its probable accuracy—lower error numbers highest. Those very close in error number are listed in equal position.

FOR 2 PERCENT ERROR OF VELOCITY AND BULLET BALANCE

| Cartridge | Accuracy Order | Bullet Weight | Average Velocity | Drop Error | Barrel Twist | Spiral Length | Error Number |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 220 Swift | (1) | 48 gr. | 3800 | .020 | 14" | 2900 | 58 |
| 219 Donaldson | (1) | 50-55 gr. | 3500 | .024 | 14" | 2900 | 69 |
| 22-250 | (1) | 50-55 gr. | 3500 | .024 | 14" | 2900 | 69 |
| 219 Zipper | (2) | 56 gr. | 2780 | .047 | 16" | 2200 | 104 |
| 218 Bee | (3) | 46 gr. | 2560 | .058 | 16" | 2200 | 128 |
| 22 Hornet | (4) | 46 gr. | 2325 | .073 | 16" | 2200 | 161 |
| 250-3000 | (4) | 87 gr. | 2850 | .044 | 14" | 3750 | 165 |
| 22 Hi-Pwr. | (5) | 70 gr. | 2650 | .052 | 12" | 3900 | 202 |
| 270 Win. | (6) | 130 gr. | 3000 | .038 | 10" | 6900 | 262 |
| 257 Roberts | (7) | 100 gr. | 2720 | .048 | 10" | 6400 | 307 |
| 300 Magnum | (7) | 180 gr. BT | 2900 | .042 | 10" | 7600 | 320 |
| 30-'06 | (8) | 150 gr. | 2800 | .046 | 10" | 7600 | 350 |
| 375 Magnum | (9) | 300 gr. | 2420 | .066 | 12" | 6200 | 410 |
| .32-40 | (10) | 165-185 gr. | 1700 | .150 | 16" | 3100 | 465 |
| .38-55 | (10) | 255-300 gr. | 1600 | .160 | 18" | 2900 | 465 |
| .22 l.r. | (11) | 40 gr. | 1075 | .255 | 16" | 2200 | 560 |

The table is for 100 yards. By way of explanation, at 200 yards the old-time favorites, .32-40 and .38-55, will look only slightly better in relation to the super .22's than at 100 yards. In the ultra-long-range class of 500 yards and more, the .300 Magnum and .30-'06 will predominate, but very little bench-rest experimentation has been done at such long ranges. Errors larger than two percent will give much the same relative standing as in the table.

Note in the table that the oldtime favorites of benchrest shooting, the .32-40 and .38-55, come out in tenth place. The old slug guns would show no better—and in larger calibers probably would be even further down the line.

If these results are true, why is it that the record shows no improvement in accuracy during the last one hundred years? In fact, we seem to have slipped backward a little! The error number of the old guns is about eight times that of the best modern guns. Can it be that the riflemen of that day were eight times better marksmen and eight times more fussy in shooting than we are today? If so, we will have to shoot groups one-eighth as small as the oldtimers in order to equal their results.

Yet we can show that we have rifles which are potentially eight times more accurate than theirs. Does that mean that we must shoot 10-shot groups at 200 yards which will be smaller than .070 inch on centers?

These are the conclusions we must face. Even if we argue that (1) the author's error number table is all wet, but that (2) modern rifles are more accurate, and that (3) modern marksmanship and technique is equal to the oldtimer's, we are still up against the fact that accuracy has not improved. Where is the difference between oldtime and modern shooting?

The author makes the following conclusions:

The high-speed smallbore is relatively young. Give it time. The oldtimers spent about seventy-five years at the game. Try new ideas. Remove any barriers on development as to weight and type of rifle, or any other factor.

More important, we shooters should quit kidding ourselves that we are shooting the most accurate rifles ever developed and set about proving it. ◆ ◆ ◆

Our horses were the first to reach the Bonnet Plume River. No hunting party had ever been in that area

Camp scene along the Bo Plume River in northern Y the "Land of the Mid Sun". Around June 21 th shines twenty-four hours day. Since there is no thing as going out and ge back before dark, sometim went hunting at eight o' in the evening and returne eight the next morning. ture taken at ten P.M.

# PICTURES AND BULLETS

By Jim Bond

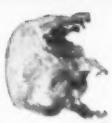
PICTURES and bullets tell a story better than words. Being a wildlife motion-picture photographer, writer, and big-game hunter, I have had ample opportunity to kill many grand game animals at fifty yards or less, as my motion pictures clearly show. But on my recent trip into the Yukon I wanted to find out what I could kill with one shot at 300, 400, and 500 yards. Too, I wanted to test the accuracy of the Remington .300 Magnum using the new 'inner belted' Corelokt bullets. The chances to make such kills came, and I took them. Each animal pictured here was killed with one shot. The results are convincing. My rifle, sighted in at 300 yards, was equipped with the Unertl Hawk 4-power telescope and the new quick-detachable mount.

- Scene of activity—the Bonnet Plume River country of the northern Yukon right in the shadows of the Arctic Circle.
- Duration of venture—June 28 to September 25.
- Transportation—17 horses. More than 700 miles were covered taking motion pictures, gathering notes for a new book, and hunting. I walked more than 400 miles.

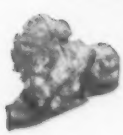
On long wilderness trips Jim Bond takes two identical rifles, with parts and ammunition interchangeable. This year he chose Remington .300 Magnums with 180-grain Corelokt 'inner belted' ammunition

An emergency shot at 25 feet. This 1800-pound giant Yukon moose came charging out of the brush answering our 'cow call', destruction of any rivals his object. Antler spread 67¼; weight of antlers 85 pounds

This Dall sheep with the wonderful 41-inch curl stood broadside at 475 yards. My 180-grain Corelokt bullet went his way and death was instant



A large northern Yukon grizzly bear killed at 350 yards—he didn't even have time to get his temper up



Great Barren Land caribou bull killed at 425 yards. Weight about 700 pounds. He appeared to be the largest in a bunch of 37 old mature massive bulls

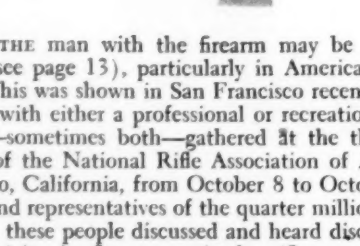
Newly elected NRA president Harry D. Linn addresses third annual convention of the National Rifle Association. Others at the table are (left to right) M. A. Edson, Frank Daniel, L. F. Lucas

NRA Executive Director Merritt A

# National Rifle Association Meets in San Francisco

THOUGH THE man with the firearm may be a symbolic figure (see page 13), particularly in America, he is also a real one. This was shown in San Francisco recently. About 600 persons with either a professional or recreational interest in firearms—sometimes both—gathered at the third annual convention of the National Rifle Association of America, in San Francisco, California, from October 8 to October 12. As individuals and representatives of the quarter million members of the NRA, these people discussed and heard discussed every phase of activity in firearms—pistols, rifles, and shotguns.

The seriousness with which the weightier problems brought up at the convention were attacked by those in attendance did not shut them off from the more entertaining side of the convention, which included not only exhibits of the wares of many firearms manufacturers, dealers, and organizations and activities which are closely affiliated with the shooting game, but a lecture and movie on African hunting by Roy E. Weatherby of Weatherby's Inc., a question-and-answer Dope Bag Forum presided over by Major General Julian S. Hatcher (ret'd), technical advisor of the NRA, a shooting exhibition by Lt. Col. Walter Walsh, USMCR, former FBI marksmanship expert and noted pistol shooter, and a lecture on hunting American game by Elmer Keith, noted hunter and author.



## GENERAL SESSIONS

NRA members, directors, officers, and staff centered their attention upon the four primary phases of the Association's activities in general sessions. Speeches and discussions in general sessions, which examined these activities in detail from the NRA's point of view, were enlightening. A resume of the discussion on each follows:

**Legislation**—*To protect the right of the law-abiding citizen to own firearms and to use firearms in a proper manner for sport and for national defense.*

Anti-gun legislation is usually of two types—requiring a license to purchase or own, or limiting or forbidding the use of a firearm in the game field. Licensing is a means to control firearms in urban areas usually advocated by law-enforcement groups and individuals. Legislation to control firearms in the game field is usually initiated by game conservationists.

In the general session on the NRA and firearms legislation both aspects of anti-gun legislation was discussed. Mr. Karl Frederick, New York lawyer and member of the National Crime Commission, spoke on control measures advocated by law-enforcement personnel and frequently enacted into law.

The history of early anti-gun legislation, said Karl Frederick, dates back 140 years to 1813. In that year, Kentucky made it illegal to carry concealed pistols in that state. It

Man with bow tie in foreground at NRA Board of Directors' meeting is J. Alvin Badeaux, new NRA vice president

California's Congressman Donald L. Jackson spoke at Convention banquet (see page 13)

General Julian S. Hatcher, NRA Technical Advisor, presides at Dope Bag forum. Elmer Keith (sitting), Harold McFarland, H. P. White, and Bert Munhall made up panel of experts

Past NRA president Frank Parker (center) presided at general session on firearms legislation at which Clarke Wilson (left) and Karl Frederick talked on anti-firearms legislation

spite of the fact that in 1822 the Supreme Court, taking a more literal view of the general provisions in the Federal Constitution relative to the carrying of arms than is done by the Court today, ruled the statute unconstitutional, provisions of the 1813 Kentucky act recognized that travelling was a more precarious and dangerous undertaking than it is now, and exempted travellers from the act, expecting them to have to look out for themselves. After amendment of the Kentucky constitution, the same type of legislation was passed again in 1850 by Kentucky and several other states also.

That type of firearms legislation was practically the only type of regulatory enactment in the nineteenth century. Not until 1911 did the modern effort to regulate pistols out of existence begin. In that year the state of New York adopted what is known today as the Sullivan Act or Sullivan Law, which introduced new principles into the business of firearms control. The two new ideas dealt with regulating pistols by a license system—either a license to carry a concealed pistol or a license to purchase a pistol.

But, Mr. Frederick pointed out, the story of firearms regulation is not a discouraging one, in fact it has many encouraging aspects. Stirred by the impact of the Sullivan Law, a small group, centering around New York, began the study of the problem of pistol regulation from a constructive point of view in an attempt to stop the use of pistols in crime without interfering with the law-abiding person interested in firearms. A proposed uniform statute, aimed at the crook and not the honest man, was put forth and adopted by several states, including California.

Shortly thereafter, the Conference of Commissioners on

Uniform Law, an organization fathered by the American Bar Association, saw and appreciated the first draft of the uniform pistol act, and after a few years of study, in 1926 adopted it with revisions; the act was also approved by the American Bar Association. Upon being offered to various states, the proposal was attacked by the Police Commissioner of New York City. Startled by the attack, the Bar Association undertook further study of the proposed statute, and in 1930 it was again approved with minor revisions by the Bar Association. Since that date it has been adopted in part by many states.

The license to purchase a pistol got another boost in 1935 when the Interstate Commission on Crime, headed by a Harvard Law School professor, included provision for it in the proposed uniform statute drawn up by that organization, though it also included a provision to satisfy target shooters. The Interstate Commission's proposed statute has not been adopted by any state.

Since the NRA does not lobby against so-called anti-gun laws, merely analysing each one that is presented and informing individual NRA members of unduly discriminatory proposals, the progress which has been made in combatting unhealthy ordinances has been accomplished by individuals. Shooters have succeeded in getting a grudging admission that they have a real share in the public interest. Nevertheless, proponents of firearms control laws, who may be divided roughly into four groups—honest individuals with little knowledge of the subject, impractical visionaries commonly called 'crackpots', law-enforcement officers whose point of view is warped or cynical, and police state advocates—are continuing to increase their influence by local ordinances and alleged game laws.

Since today most of those who advocate firearms control laws are willing to stop, look, and listen to arguments against these laws, it is up to each NRA member to advance his informed point of view whenever the occasion to do so presents itself. Perhaps in the years to come, gun control advocates can be even further reduced in number and strength.

Clark L. Wilson, Commissioner of Game, Forestation and Parks in Nebraska and NRA director, spoke on game conservation and legislation following Mr. Frederick.

"Under the guise of game conservation" said Mr. Wilson, "some of the most cockeyed legislation in recent years has been introduced."

Visitors to convention exhibit hall examine shotgun

James P. Serven (left) had 1-of-1000 Winchester 73s on display in booth

Julian S. Hatcher discusses ballistics with NRA convention delegate

Interest ran high in rifles and stuffed animals on exhibit in the booth of Weatherby's, Inc.

Walter Walsh entertains delegates with trick shooting demonstration

Walsh fires at and hits target by sighting with aid of ring

With game conservationists, there are two methods of firearms restriction—by legislation and by commission regulations.

When the states first became active in conservation of wildlife, legislatures dealt with the detail of game management problems by passing laws, which resulted in littering the statutes with trivial items. It was thought that to maintain good hunting, shooting must be restricted. Seasons were closed, certain firearms forbidden in the field, but soon the laws and the lawmakers were going further. In trying to crack down on out-of-season and market hunters, for example, laws were passed which required that guns be cased or in the luggage compartment of the car, must not be loaded, and no one could carry a gun in certain places or in certain seasons.

Too, conservation officers began to think that by spreading their authority more convictions could be obtained. Since they couldn't catch a fellow jacklighting, the officers reasoned, why not make it illegal to possess a loaded gun and a spotlight at night?

Why should game departments and legislature concoct such goofy regulations? asked Mr. Wilson. Food and cover are the things to provide for game, he commented. Given a good start, game will expand its feeding ground and increase to the limit of an area. Increasing the amount of game beyond that limit invites disaster—if the hunter doesn't harvest the crop, mother nature will.

Otherwise, the job of game conservationists is to control the take of game by bag and possession limits, making only legitimate arrests for violations actually occurring. A check of game populations from year to year will give the approximate number of birds and animals that can be taken in any area. If the bag limit and length of season doesn't suffice, then limit the number of hunters if necessary, said Mr. Wilson, but don't legislate against firearms.

If the public becomes aware of the best means of promoting better hunting, concluded Mr. Wilson, less emphasis will be placed on firearms restrictions. Therein lies the job for the NRA.

**National preparedness**—*To spread marksmanship to the armed services and to civilians alike, so that the citizens will be prepared to defend their homes and vital industries and prepared, when necessary, to take their place in the armed services.*

The shooters of America play an important part in America's national defense. During World War II, NRA members were commissioned directly from civilian life to serve as small-arms instructors in the Army, Navy, and Air Force. When it is remembered that only two percent of the men inducted into the Armed Forces had any previous experience with firearms, the value of the program of the NRA as the only national organization concerned with the teaching of marksmanship is seen in a new light.

Discussing the tremendous problems facing the nation at the convention open session on the NRA and national preparedness, Admiral M. C. Mumma (retired) outlined the operation of the Selective Service System as it relates to preparedness. Concluding his talk, Admiral Mumma said:

"Since virtually all of our young men will have served or be serving in the next five years it is not hard to see our responsibility . . . in helping prepare them for that service through training with small arms.

"It behooves us as citizens and NRA members to insure that we help leave a heritage for following generations no less great than our forebears left us," said Mumma.

Korea has been a sobering experience for the armed services, said Brigadier General Merrill B. Twining, USMC, at the session. For almost a hundred years the United States has relied upon mass and superiority of material to win wars. But Korea has taught that Americans cannot trade life for life on even turns with the communists hordes. What we must do is shift the emphasis in the American fighting man from mass to quality.

As Commandant of the Marine Corps replacement training center at Camp Pendleton, California, from which Marines are shipped to Korea, General Twining wrote Marine General Lewis Puller, in Twining's opinion the most capable leader of men in battle, asking what changes General Puller thought should be made in training replacements. Puller's reply was: "Just teach them to march farther and shoot their weapons straighter."

"Once we recognize that marksmanship training is the medium for development of our forces to the requisite standard", said Twining, "we will have come a long way in the creation of the invincible military machine. The National Rifle Association is accomplishing a great purpose in helping to bring this about. The NRA is serving a great purpose in the future of American marksmanship."

Yes, the National Rifle Association is a vital unit in the security of the United States, added General Merritt A. Edson, NRA Executive Director. The Armed Forces have the task of teaching marksmanship to those individuals who enlist or are inducted into the services; the National Rifle Association is the sole agency which attempts the far greater job of teaching the civilian, who is always a potential soldier, the art of marksmanship for the ultimate defense of the country.

NRA rifle and pistol clubs, said General Edson, have always been the primary medium through which the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice has contacted civilians in relation to their marksmanship training. The passage of the Universal Service and Training Act this year could make it possible for the NRA to play an even greater part in national defense than it has heretofore. The National Board and NRA clubs could assume the full responsibility for training in marksmanship prior to induction into the service.

The scheme is not new, Edson pointed out. In Switzerland, every youth is taught how to shoot before induction into universal military service. Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark have the same basic integration of rifle clubs and universal training as Switzerland.

America, too, could become a nation of marksmen if Congress would make full use of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle practice. In order to bring this about, Edson said, the NRA should:

Encourage the enrollment of civilians in our basic marksmanship schools.

Promote and sponsor the organization of rifle and pistol clubs, both senior and junior. As individuals and as an Association, advise our elected representatives in the Federal Congress of the broad functions of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice.

Insist that Congress transfer the Board from the level of the Department of the Army to the level of the Department of Defense.

Insist that Congress provide adequate funds for the National Board and see to it that Congress requires the Board to carry out its statutory functions. *(Continued on page 33)*

**Members of the smallbore competitive committee discuss problems with shooters in open session**

**NRA members in attendance at one of general sessions on primary activities of Association**

# Finishing a Gunstock

## WHETHER YOUR STOCK IS OLD AND ABUSED OR NEW AND UNUSED, HERE IS A WAY TO GIVE IT AN EXCELLENT PROTECTIVE FINISH

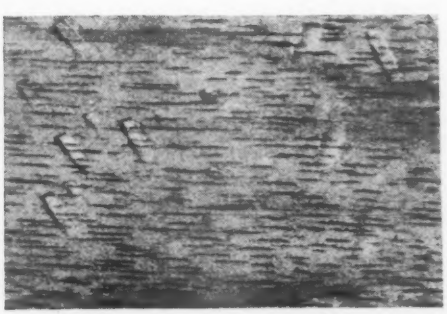
**By J. Charles Thompson**

THERE ARE dozens of different ways of finishing a gunstock, and as many different reasons for choosing one or another. Some guns are simply tools, used for providing meat in season and put away in a dusty corner when not in use. A gun of this kind might well be stocked with ash or hickory and finished with a good coat of paint.

At the other extreme is the showpiece that spends most of the time in a mahogany cabinet and is rarely if ever shot. I know of one target .22 that never touches any surface except the owner's hands or the fleece-lined case in which it is kept. The case goes along to the range on the occasions that the gun is actually used, and the gun is never laid on anything except the opened case. The gun sports a rubbed shellac finish of great beauty but of equally great fragility. With anything except the kid-glove treatment it receives, the finish would be quickly ruined.

Most of the people who read this article will be using a commercial finish kit of filler and polish on stocks of American walnut, so that is the process that will be described. If the stock is a new one, it should be inletted and shaped before finishing. A stock being refinished should first have the old finish removed with paint remover or sandpaper. If there are dents in the stock, they can be raised by laying a wet cloth over them and pressing the cloth with a hot iron. A round dent can be completely removed by this method, but the mark will still show if the dent was made by a sharp object that broke the fibers of the wood.

**Before: A spot on the stock that a sweet, three-year-old angel decorated with a screwdriver, with some round dents made with a pliers handle for comparison**



**After: The round dents are raised almost 100 percent by steaming**

**A round knob like a schnabel tip may be safely sanded with the fingers**

The first step in the finishing of any stock is to sand it smooth. On a round knob—like a schnabel tip, for instance—it is safe to hold the sandpaper in the fingers, and you can probably get away with using sandpaper in the fingers on a double-curved surface like the inside of a pistol grip. However, on any surface that is flat, or curved in one direction

When working on a flat surface, especially over inletting, be sure to use a sanding block. This one is a large, Artgum eraser

only, you will not be able to preserve the line without a sanding block of some kind. This is specially true of a surface that is inletted. You can get a handy, cheap sanding block in any large hardware store, and for places where it is too large use rectangular 'Artgum' erasers from the 2x3-inch size down to the small ones. Don't use these for erasing, as the edges and corners will be rounded off and spoiled for use as sanding blocks. You don't need to sand too fine before whiskering—No. 00 paper is plenty—but start with a coarse grit and do not go on to the finer until all the marks of the tools or of the previous sanding are gone. And, of course, always sand with the grain. Working with the grain applies to all processes of finishing and polishing except rubbing off filler.

The next step is raising or whiskering the grain. Sanded wood, when examined closely, shows long trenches where tubules in the wood have been exposed by sanding. There are a lot more of these little tubes under the surface, and the first time the wood is wet, they will swell open. The job of whiskering is to get this over with before the finish is applied.

To do this, the wood must be dampened with a wet rag and then heated so that steam will open the tubes within reasonable distance of the surface. The source of heat should be an open flame, as any other will not work fast enough. If you can't get a torch, you can use the burner of a gas stove. This is not so good, as it is very easy to burn the stock before you realize it, especially since it must be heated very fast to do a proper job of whiskering. Do the whiskering a few square inches at a time, take it easy on the heat, and you should come out all right.

On this step, like all the others, it is a good idea to take a 'dry run' if you really want to have a good job on your first try. Smooth a spot on the rough blank, and carry the finishing job at least through the filling stage. You can make all your mistakes on this patch, which is going to be taken off the gunstock in the final shaping, and when you start playing for keeps, you will know just how the finish will work on the piece of wood you are using.

To get back to our whiskering job: When a flame hits damp wood, the result will be a fine crop of whiskers. The best way to remove these is with very fine steel wool passed very lightly over the surface. The finest, sharpest sandpaper will tend to press some of the whiskers back into place. Even with steel wool, you will have to repeat the whiskering at least once, and with sandpaper it may take a dozen repetitions before no more whiskers come up.

Sealing is seldom recommended in the standard finishing processes but it is very valuable in that it makes the stock waterproof. It is done by soaking the wood in good marine spar varnish, thinned with white gasoline, or naphtha if your

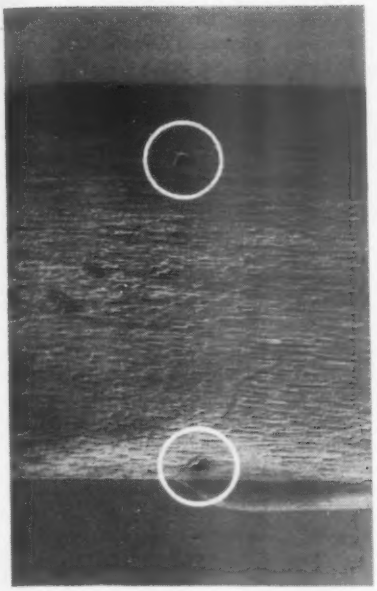
Heating the dampened stock to raise the grain. Note that the pot-holder is set to one side so the wood can be brought down as low as necessary without risking a dent

paint store carries it, until it is just about like water. Since you probably don't have a suitable tank, or a tankful of sealer for that matter, just keep brushing the sealer on, keeping the stock wet all over until it won't soak up any more. Then let it dry a few hours, or better yet overnight.

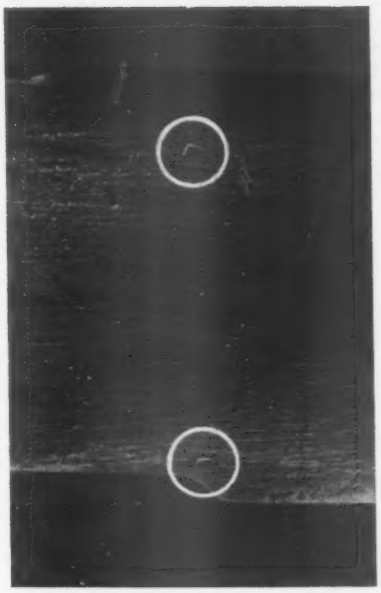
The next step is the filler. This is what levels up the holes left by the whiskering. Unless you are doing a specially fancy job, the easiest thing is to skip the filling altogether. Most factory stocks in the regular grade are unfilled, and such a stock will last just as well and serve its main purpose just as effectively as one that has been filled. But if you are finishing a stock for yourself, you will probably want the fine appearance that is to be had only by filling.

There is room for a great deal of argument as to which is the best filler. If anyone tells you of a good, one-application filler that will stay in as long as the wood is there, make him prove it is so, and then send me the formula. At present the choice is between easily applied fillers that will last several years, anyway, and varnish or a hard-drying oil that will take a good many coats to fill the average piece of walnut but will stay in forever.

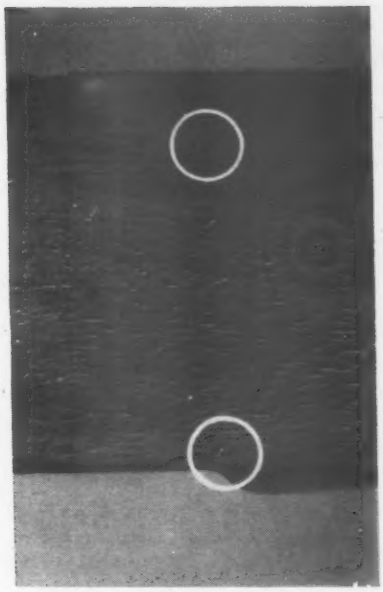
If you want to try filling with varnish, let each coat dry thoroughly, and rub down to the bare wood after every coat. You are only filling the holes and not covering the whole stock with varnish. The rubbing down may be with fine steel wool and a lot of care, or with 400-grit, wet-or-dry sandpaper, and a lot of profanity. Steel wool will scratch unless carefully used, and the sandpaper, used dry, will clog up with



Sanded wood before whiskering



Close-up of whiskers raised by the above process



After whiskers are removed with steel wool

varnish after a dozen strokes. If you have used a sealer and are 100 percent sure it is waterproof, then use water on your wet-or-dry paper and the job is easy.

My friend Mr. Guy Heeter, of Falls Church, Virginia, has suggested another angle. He uses oil with the wet-or-dry paper and has some beautiful results to show. If you use an oil that is compatible with the rest of your finishing and won't darken the wood too much, it should be the perfect answer, whether the stock has been sealed or not.

In the majority of cases, life is too short for a varnish filler, so you will have to settle for the commercial type. Apply it according to the manufacturer's directions, except that you can expect it to take at least two or three coats to do a good filling job, in spite of anything the directions may say. With a commercial filler, no matter how you apply it, the final pore fillings will shrink just enough to spoil the perfect surface but not enough to take more filler. You can: 1) ignore this, 2) use a couple of varnish coats to complete the filling, or 3) sand down the whole surface a few thousandths to the bottom of the pits.

Filling is another step that you may well practice first, as it takes some experience to know just when the filler is dry enough to wipe off without coming out of the holes and too dry not to wipe off at all. The instructions will call for wiping the filler off with burlap. This dates back to the time when there was plenty of burlap. An old piece of knit wool—last year's sweater—or a coarse paper towel works just as well.

There is one way of applying filler that I discovered by accident and have never heard mentioned anywhere else. Take some waterproof sandpaper (5-0 garnet paper works fine), wet it with a couple of drops of filler, and rub it into the stock. The filler will pack down the pores, leaving a fine, smooth surface. When you start rubbing up a light-brown powder under the paper, it has worked too dry. About the same time, you will find the paper has caked up with filler, so take a fresh piece and keep on working. In this method of filling work *with* the grain. When using the standard method of wiping off across the grain, the filler will wipe out of the pores if you start too soon and will not wipe off at all if you start too late. When sanding it in, you can work over the stock a small area at a time, and you will have a fair chance of coming up with a satisfactory job on the first coat of filler.

I am a little scared of the method, though. It doesn't

Steel wool is used to take off the whiskers

seem possible that such a simple, sure-fire way of applying filler should have been passed up for all these years while stockmakers sweated and groaned over wiping out filler. No one has ever told me any theoretical reason against it, and it works fine—for me, anyway—in practice.

Another problem that comes up now is checking and carving. If you are using the commercial filler, it can be toothbrushed out of the decoration without much trouble, just after it is rubbed off the rest of the stock. If you have sanded in the filler, of course, you will have kept it out of the decoration. Varnish, however, can fill up a checkered pattern flat with the surface and will get into the fine lines of carving as well. There are two solutions when filling with varnish: save your checkering or carving until after the filling is finished, or mask off the decorated areas and do them separately. In either case, you can skip the filling job on them entirely and go straight from sealer to finish.

Once the stock is properly filled, your troubles are over and the fun starts. The final sanding must be with the finest paper you can get, finishing off with extra fine wet-or-dry. After this has been properly done, it is a pleasure to run your fingers over the stock! Now the polish. Whether you have filled with varnish or the commercial filler, the polish that comes in the kit is about as good as any. It is probably mostly linseed oil, but once the stock is properly filled, almost anything from lard on up will give it a sweet shine.

Be a little shy of a varnish finish, even if you have filled with varnish. Two or three more coats—the last one rubbed down with pumice and then rottenstone—will give you an unrivaled finish. What's more, the final rubbing will remove the glassy appearance that is so often put forward as an objecto the use of varnish. The catch is that the finish coats must be applied without one single grain of dust landing anywhere on the stock while it is drying.

One objection to a varnish finish is no longer valid, though it still keeps plenty of gunbugs from using varnish. Until recent times, varnish finishes were very brittle and would almost pick up scratches if you gave them a rough look. This is no longer true, as a modern, phenolic marine spar varnish gives a fairly tough coat. You can carry this even further by adding a little drying oil. Linseed will do, though it cuts down the waterproofing qualities somewhat. Tung or oiticica oils, if you can get them, are much more waterproof, and adding varnish takes care of the only objection to their use—by themselves, they give a dull surface. Use a little less varnish than oil, say four to three, and polish as if you were using oil alone.

How to apply the polish is another problem. Two authorities, one as eminent as the other, state about as follows: There is nothing like the human hand for the final rubbing; and there is no reason to gum up the surface with dead skin scales and plain dirt, so you must use a rag, and be sure it is a wool rag. For my part, I have never noticed any real difference in the results, and the hand is far easier to use. If you are worried about skin scales, a good scrubbing with a stiff brush and soap will get rid of most of them before you start work. If you do use a rag, though, a woolen one or an old sweater will shed less lint, soak less oil into itself, and do a better job generally.

Apply the commercial polish according to the manufacturer's instructions. Oil, or oil and varnish, should be applied a few drops per coat with plenty of drying time and hand rubbing between coats. Keep on with the polish until you feel you have come to the point of diminishing returns. Even when the wood looks as though it couldn't be any better, one more coat will give it that certain extra something, so the limit is set by your patience and the time you have.

One final suggestion. If you take all the trouble to build up a fine finish, take the one small extra precaution of protecting it, either with one of the advertised preparations or with plain furniture wax. ♦ ♦ ♦

**When applying finish to a schnabel-tipped stock, which is not easily set up in a checkering bed, fit a handle of scrap board through the magazine cut. If the gun has no magazine, use a dowel through a screw-hole**

**In rubbing down the finish, use the flat of the palm and enough elbow grease to warm the spot you are working on**

## NRA MEETS IN SAN FRANCISCO

**Continued from page 28**

Advocate the use of the NRA as an adjunct to the National Security and Training Corps in respect to marksmanship training of our citizen soldiery.

Preach that the existence of any weapon which fully jeopardizes a whole society necessitates the readiness for defense by the whole society.

Convince your friends, your neighbors, your representatives, that skill in marksmanship is the basis of national security.

**Recreation**—*To promote shooting as a healthful, enjoyable sport, recognizing that most of us are in the game as a sport and that national preparedness, safety education, etc., as important as they are, might not hold us for long if we were not engaged in an absorbing and challenging recreation.*

It is readily apparent that shooting is a recreational activity with a serious side. Omitting the serious side, let us turn to the recreation in shooting—those activities which we carry on from day to day. These are manifold—target shooting with the rifle and pistol, skeet and trap shooting with the shotgun, hunting, collecting and shooting muzzleloaders and flintlocks, tinkering—there are almost as many aspects to the recreational side of shooting as there are individuals.

Donald D. McLean of the California Department of Fish and Game took members on an imaginative tour of California game fields. And no wonder there is so much hunting done in California. Over half of California is deer range, which supplies a reported annual kill of 45,000 forked horn bucks. The hunter can go after the Columbian black-tail deer or the Rocky Mountain mule deer or the blonde Burro deer along the Colorado River. Even some whitetails have been reported in small numbers in northeastern California. Antelope are hunted to some extent by residents, and the elk exists in large numbers. Small game hunters in California have numerous species to provide them sport—rabbits of several types, gray squirrel, ground squirrel.

Since the theme of hunting is prominent in California, Mr. McLean cautioned that hunters should always be on their good behavior, and use care in the field to avoid accidents and damage to property.

Skeet shooting provides to the man of average occupation an opportunity to test his ability to hit moving targets all year round, even though he can't get in the field more than a few days a year, said E. F. Sloan, manager of the National Skeet Shooting Association. A sport by itself, skeet is a good brain tonic, added Sloan. It develops challenging situations which must be met with keen judgment in a fraction of a second, and aids any shooter in becoming a good wing shot.

Skeet is a relatively new game, having been introduced to the public only as recently as 1926. It was named by a Montanian with the old Scandinavian form of the word shoot—skeet. Thousands are finding skeet worthwhile recreational activity today, and probably many more will be skeet shooters in the future, said Sloan.

Though benchrest shooting dates back one hundred years, said Dr. Rod Janson, it got started in its present form only as recently as 1944. In that year a group of shooters around Seattle, Washington, having heard of and discussed some of the phenomenally accurate shooting that had come to their attention, decided to hold a benchrest shoot just to see what they could do in the way of accuracy. Using all types of rifles, from .30-30s to .45-70s, the group held a meet in which they fired 20 shots at 200 yards in five-shot strings, determining the winner by string measurement. The meet was held in successive years, and soon became known as the Puget Sound Sniper's Congress.

In 1948, the Eastern Bench Rest Shooters Association was organized. That group attempted to fire three-shot groups at 100 yards, but finding the groups difficult to measure soon went to five-shot groups.

In March of this year the National Bench Rest Shooters Association was organized from the two groups with the purpose of development and encouragement of extreme accuracy and perfection in rifles, ammunition, equipment, and shooting methods. At the National Bench Rest Matches this year, a course of fire of five 5-shot groups at 100 yards, five 5-shot groups at 200 yards, and if facilities permitted, five 5-shot groups at 300 meters was fired.

Though most benchrest shooters load their own cartridges at matches, they use only a minimum of hand tools. Dr. Janson said that equipment was the usual kind used by any shooter, though of course no restrictions are placed on the type of arm which can be used. Most shooters participate in benchrest shooting for the sheer pleasure of shooting for extreme accuracy and Dr. Janson reports that it is growing rapidly in popularity.

Through the recreational aspect of shooting, the NRA can hope to interest many other individuals in joining the ranks of America's foremost shooting organization. Additional members in the NRA will only strengthen it as an organization contributing to the activities of all persons interested in firearms and their use.

**Education**—*To show that shooting is a vital activity in American life, if we are to keep youngsters coming along in the game, if we are to cut down firearm and hunting accidents, and if we are to preserve the sport of hunting which does so much to keep the sport of shooting alive.*

Education is important to the NRA and to NRA members. Only through education of both shooters and non-shooters can the positions of the NRA in national life and the NRA member in local life be improved. Our efforts toward education have a profound effect upon the recreation habits of citizens, upon the right of Americans to bear arms in peaceful civilian pursuits, and upon our ability to protect ourselves, our families, and our nation if and when the need arises.

One of the outstanding examples of what can be done by shooters in the field of education has been taking place in Los Angeles, California, since 1945. In recounting the experiences of Los Angeles, Captain Ben Stein of the Police Department said that activity resulted from numerous accidents which occurred involving youngsters unfamiliar with firearms, as well as the many complaints received by police of the use of BB and .22 rifles by kids each summer. NRA-trained instructors teach the fundamentals of handling firearms as part of a Deputy Auxiliary Police program which includes summer camps, field days, seasonal sports, crafts, and dramatics. Each year 500 youngsters receive marksmanship instruction. The city has the use of ten ranges and some eighty rifles. Recently an instructor received a letter from a

**Convention Speeches Available**

Printed copies of the proceedings of the NRA Convention in San Francisco will be sent to any NRA member for $1.50 per copy. The proceedings will include verbatim all the major addresses on firearms legislation, national security, conservation, education, and other programmed subjects.

Send requests for convention speeches to:

Convention Secretary
National Rifle Association
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

boy, now in Korea, thanking the Los Angeles police department for instruction in the use of a rifle. A top-flight soldier, the fellow is a small-arms instructor in the Army now, said Capt. Stein.

## BUSINESS MEETINGS

At the convention, sandwiched between the general sessions dealing with subjects of primary interest to members, were the annual NRA Members' Meeting, the meeting of the NRA Board of Directors, and meetings of numerous smaller committees concerned with competition and junior activities carried on under the auspices of the Association.

The decision was made to hold national matches in 1952 somewhere near to Jacksonville, Florida, wherever facilities for pistol, smallbore rifle, and highpower rifle matches may be located, just after the NRA convention in Jacksonville.

The committees on competition with the three arms adopted other changes of importance to those who shoot regularly in tournaments (rule changes are listed on page 49). The following are the more important:

Include two and four-man team matches in the high-power and smallbore national matches,

Declare obsolete on January 1, 1952 classifications of all persons except Masters who have not fired in a registered tournament within the last three years,

Establish NRA registration fees at $1.00 per competitor per day for regionals; $.50 per competitor per day for state and local tournaments.

Hold twenty-four regionals in 1952, eight for each of the three arms, pistol, smallbore rifle, and high power rifle, with no geographical boundaries to regionals but limiting each competitor to competition in only one with each arm.

Include 300 meter free rifle matches in the high power national matches.

The following men were elected at the 1951 NRA Board of Directors Meeting to serve as officers of the Association for the coming year:

President—Harry D. Linn
Vice-President—J. Alvin Badeaux
Executive Director—Merritt A. Edson
Secretary—F. L. Wyman
Treasurer—L. F. Lucas

Elected to serve terms indicated on the NRA Board of Directors were the following Association members:

Terms Expire 1953—Mr. Elmer O. Franzen, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Mr. Harvey A. Mutch, Enterprise, Oregon.

Terms Expire 1954—Mr. James Affleck, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Mr. Paul D. Andrews, Syracuse, New York; Mr. Thomas R. Barnes, Billings, Montana; Mr. C. A. Brown, Tampa, Florida; Mr. Harlon B. Carter, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Charles J. Code, Devon, Pennsylvania; Mr. Herbert Hollister, Boulder, Colorado; Mr. W. Owen Keller, Frankfort, Kentucky; Mr. Oscar R. Landet, Anaconda, Montana; Mr. John R. Lang, Cincinnati, Ohio; Mr. Harry D. Linn, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. C. F. Sterbutzel, Connellsville, Pennsylvania; Mr. Henry O. Strahan, Poughkeepsie, New York; Colonel James F. Strain, Washington, D. C.; Mr. C. M. Styer, Seattle, Washington; Lt. Col. Milton C. Taylor, Fort Benning, Georgia; Mr. George R. Whittington, Amarillo, Texas; Mr. Clarke L. Wilson, Lincoln, Nebraska; Mr. Russell I. Wisler, San Francisco, California; Mr. Wilbur L. Withrow, Springfield, Illinois.

NRA life membership was fixed by the Board of Directors at $75 with an effective date of January 1, 1952.

As can be attested by those who were present, the third annual convention of the National Rifle Association in San Francisco was a success. At the general sessions, at committee meetings, in the exhibit hall, at the public attractions, shooters had the opportunity to discuss their activities, to plan for the future of the NRA, and to enjoy themselves with others of similar interests. ♦ ♦ ♦

# NRA International Shooting Fund

THE National Rifle Association has established a special fund to be used exclusively for participation by American shooters in International shooting contests.

The National Rifle Association has been the motivating force behind United States participation in International shooting. Since World War II it has sent combined rifle and pistol squads to the 1948 Olympics in England and the 1949 International Shooting Union Matches in Argentina. It also sent five representative shooters to the First Pan-American Games at Buenos Aires in 1951. Plans are being formulated for participation in the International Shooting Union World Championships which will be fired at Oslo, Norway and the Olympics which will be fired at Helsinki, Finland in July of 1952.

In the past, a large portion of the expenses for International shooting has been obtained from Federal appropriations. In 1951, however, it was necessary for the Association to pay all expenses connected with the Pan-American Match. A request for International Team funds in the 1952 Budget of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice was not approved. An attempt is still being made to obtain this appropriation. In the meantime, it is not possible to hold tryouts and make other necessary plans for these matches unless it is known in advance that funds will be available. It has been decided to create a revolving fund to be supported by those vitally interested in International shooting through donations, special match entry fees and other sources.

The NRA International Shooting Fund was started at the 1951 National Championships in California by including International Aggregates in the program of events. All entry fees from these matches were credited to the special fund. Now that such a fund has been established, it will be maintained on a continuing basis from year to year. All future National Championships and Regional Tournaments will include special International Aggregates with entry fees going to the fund. Each sponsor of a local tournament is urged to include an International Aggregate and matches of the international type in the tournament program with all entry fees turned over to the fund.

Individual members who wish to help finance American participation in International shooting contests should mail their contributions to NRA Headquarters. A contribution blank will be found below:

**CONTRIBUTION TO NRA INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING FUND**

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

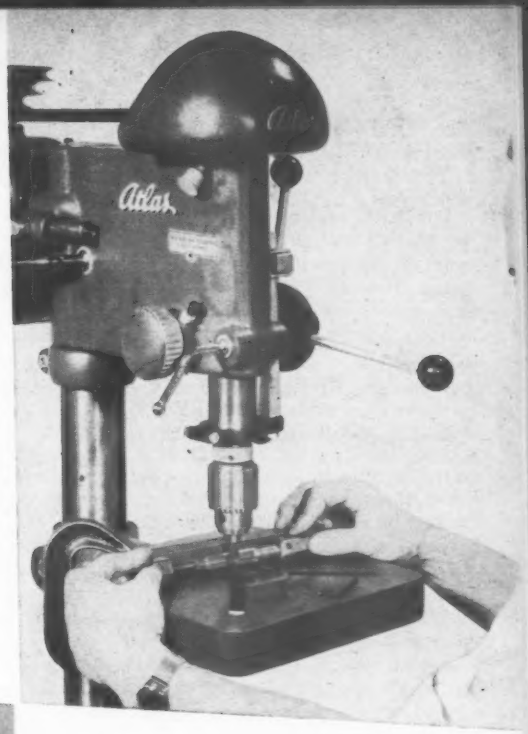
Please place the enclosed contribution of $_____ in the NRA International Shooting Fund. I understand that this Fund will be devoted exclusively to American participation in international shooting contests.

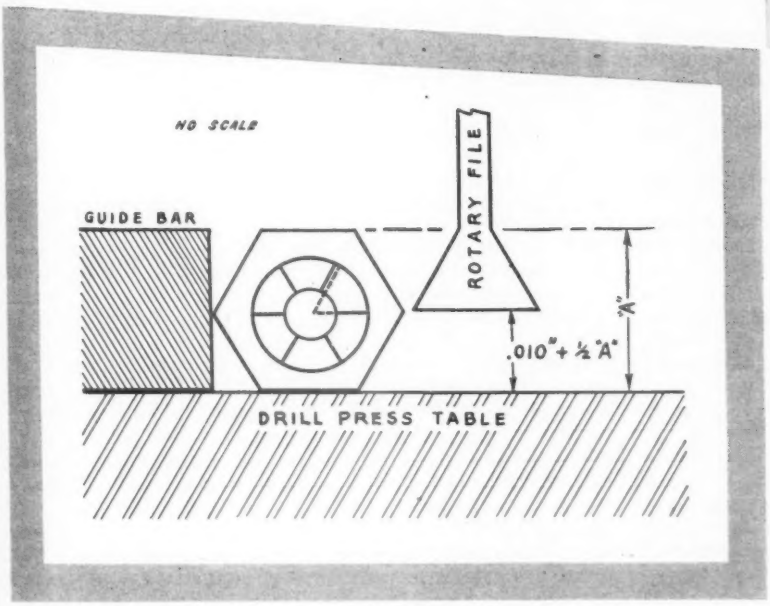
Donor's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

# Making Your Own Chambering Reamers




**AN AMATEUR GUNSMITH NEEDING A REAMER CAN MAKE IT ON A DRILL PRESS**

**By Elwyn Sprague**

EVERY AMATEUR gunsmith runs up against the problem of chambering reamers. Can he afford one for what little he'll use it, or can he make his own? Few have a milling machine, but most every one has a drill press and access to a lathe, so here's a method of making reamers with these tools. About the only extra equipment one will need to buy is a $3.00 rotary file, which will be good for a lot of reamers.

You can get the measurements of the caliber you want by miking a dozen cartridges of various brands and turning your reamer about .004 inch over the largest, with .015 inch longer neck. Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute, 343 Lexington Avenue, New York 16, N. Y., will furnish chamber prints for one dollar each.

For steel to make a reamer of, pick out any good 'non-deforming oil hardening' tool steel. So long as you don't overheat the cutting edges of a reamer in grinding or during use, the steel is as good as high speed and easier to work.

Carbon steel drill rod will make good reamers, but it is hard to sharpen without warping. However, if you have a tool post grinder to grind out the warp, it is all right to use. But make the reamer about .010 inch oversize to allow for possible warp and finish grind it to dimension after heat-treatment. Drill rod of half-inch diameter may be used for most reamers, but get ⅜-inch round bar stock in the oil hardening non-deforming tool steel as there is a useless skin about a sixteenth-inch thick on it. If hardening is attempted with the skin on, the piece is liable to crack. A foot long piece weighs about a pound and costs about eighty cents.

Cut a six-inch long piece for the reamer and center on both ends. Make the center on what will be the driving end big enough so that, when a ¼-inch hole is tapped in it for the driving shank, there will still be some usable center left. On the driving end of the reamer, turn a shank about an inch long between .490 and .495-inch diameter. I have the best

luck turning the neck size next and finishing the turn with the compound set at the shoulder angle and using a tool with a radius ground on it equal to the radius between the neck and shoulder of the cartridge.

For belted and rimmed cartridges, under-cut a groove with the parting tool just even with the belt or rim to make it easier to sharpen the shoulder. This will leave that portion of the chamber next to the rim straight for an eighth of an inch, but it will do no harm since the actual difference in measurement will only be a thousandth or so, and on the tight side.

Then turn the body taper and next the slight ridge that will be the bullet seating part of the reamer. It will be simpler to leave this off on your first reamer and run the pilot size clear to the cartridge neck; also, under-cut the front of this a little to give room for the hone when sharpening. Leave the pilot very close to bore size so that it can be finished by polishing after heat-treating.

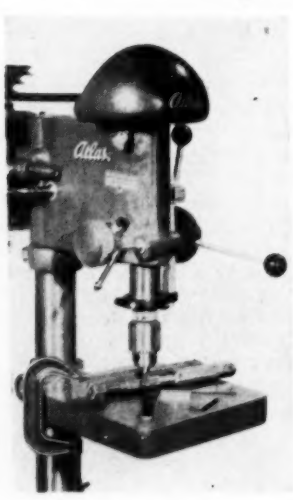
Now for the fluting. Get a six-inch piece of hexagonal stock of about one inch cross-section and drill and ream a half-inch hole in one end as close to the center as you can. Take a three-inch piece of the same stock and drill a hole in it of the size of your reamer pilot. At this time it would probably be a good idea to put a three-eighths-inch hole in the other end of the six-inch piece for use with smaller reamers. Tap a 10-24 or ¼-inch hole into side of each holder, entering the first holes so a set-screw in these holes will hold the reamer in place.

For making a four-flute reamer, use square stock and drill and tap it just as the hexagonal stock.

Get a high-speed steel rotary file with a quarter-inch shank in the inverted cone shape, coarse or medium cut, of the machine cut tooth style—this type of tooth seems to work better than the hand cut teeth. Cut off the shank so that the file is brought close to the drill chuck. There should be no teeth on the outer end or face of the file opposite the shank as they would leave a rough surface on the face of the reamer teeth. If the file is run too fast, it will wear down at the outer edges faster than is necessary. Three hundred revolutions per minute is fast enough. These files can be sharpened by grinding the outer face down evenly a thirty-second inch or so to get to a fresh part of the teeth. It's easy to get the work and file too hot to handle but cutting oil will cause the teeth to clog up with shavings. Running the work too hot or letting the file dwell too long in one spot will cause tool steel to work-harden, so feed it evenly. A suitable file for making a six-flute reamer is the Nicholson Z10J cone type file, coarse, or any comparable shape and cut.

**The file is positioned to cut one-half the depth of the hexagonal stock plus .010 inch**

**Cut the flutes by taking numerous cuts until the flutes are so deep the lands are about 3/64 inch across**




With your reamer blank mounted in its holders, tighten the file in its chuck and adjust the drill press table so the bottom of the file is above the table exactly half the diameter of the hexagonal stock (across the flats) plus .010-inch more to give the reamer a scraping action and help prevent chatter.

You will notice the reamer shank fits loosely in the holder. It is supposed to. As the reamer is placed on successive sides to cut the flutes, this staggers the flutes a few thousandths inch off so that they are not diametrically opposite each other.

Now take a piece of bar stock and C-clamp it to the drill press table so that as the reamer in its holders is slid back and forth it just touches the file along its full body length. Flat of holder must lay on drill press table and edge be guided by the guide bar. Run file as slowly as possible.

Slide reamer along firmly against table and guide and take a light cut. Do same to start all six flutes. Stop the drill press to take work out for inspection. Tap guide bar about a thirty-second inch closer and take another cut all around. Keep this up till the flutes all around are so deep that the lands are about 3/64-inch across. It's ready to harden.

Heat carefully and evenly to recommended temperature for the steel you are using and quench by plunging lengthwise in quenching oil and moving it straight up and down to cool. Draw it at 300 degrees for a couple of hours in the kitchen oven. If there is a tool shop near, they can harden it for you. There are many companies specializing in heat-treating who can do a good job of hardening and straightening tool steel.

Now hold the reamer solidly in a vise or between lathe centers. Hone the face of the cutting edges, watching the hone to prevent sharp edge of reamer wearing a gouge in it which will dub over the cutting edge. With a medium hone, start backing it off. The backing-off angle has to be at only slightly more than 90 degrees to the cutting edge, so watch your hone. Use plenty of oil or kerosene on the hone to keep it cutting free, and wipe your work clean and inspect it often. If the reamer is backed off at too great an angle, it will be likely to chatter and wear down fast. The extra hard, extra fine silicon carbine slipstones of triangular cross-section with rounded cross-section ends work well for honing the radius between the shoulder angle and neck, which is the hardest part of the job. The sharp undercut at the front of the neck can be filed at an angle almost to the cutting edge before heat-treatment to make it easier to hone.

When you start using the reamer, watch how it cuts. If one side seems to be cutting more than another, make sure there is clearance angle enough on the opposite side so that it is not forcing the reamer sideways and making it cut oversize. If there is a slight warp in the reamer, sometimes the 'high' side will cut a little too much. Check the hole dimension to correct any tendency to cut oversize before getting too close to finish size.

Don't turn a reamer backward. Chips will roll over the fine cutting edge and spoil it with small nicks. Use plenty of cutting oil to keep heat and abrasion to a minimum. It's a good idea to cut a trial chamber in a piece of scrap to make sure of all dimensions and finish. With the reamer turned .004-inch over dimension originally, if you have honed it very carefully, it may cut a trifle large, in which case just hone the over dimension all around a wee bit—just a gentle swipe with your finest hone. ◆ ◆ ◆

## ARMY MARKSMANSHIP

Continued from page 16

In addition, he receives the following weapons instruction:

| | |
|---|---|
| Familiarization with weapons other than his individual weapon | 8 hours |
| Light machine gun familiarization | 19 hours |
| Rocket launchers | 6 hours |
| Grenades (all types) | 8 hours |
| Total | 41 hours |

As a matter of information, I am enclosing herewith an article entitled "Comments of a Battalion Commander Recently Returned from Korea." This article tends to refute in some respects the statements made in the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. . . .

The following are the comments of an Infantry Battalion Commander who commanded the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry, of the 2nd Infantry Division, for over eight months in combat in Korea:

"I disagree with the opening sentence of the article 'Marksmanship and the U. S. Army.' The theory that America is a nation of riflemen *did not* take a beating in Korea. The superiority of the American riflemen over the enemy was demonstrated again and again. A large percentage of dead enemy were killed by rifle fire. From 40 to 50% of those killed by rifle fire were shot in the head or high up on the chest, demonstrating that the U. S. rifleman had killed them as they raised up from their fox holes or from behind cover.

"To cite a specific example, reference is made to the Siege of Chipyong-ni in February 1951 where six Chinese Divisions surrounded the 23rd Regimental Combat Team and attempted to annihilate it. In a savage three-day battle the 23rd RCT repulsed all assaults and the siege was finally lifted when elements of the 1st Cavalry Division contacted the 23rd RCT. During this siege on the night of February 13-14, 1951, a Chinese Regiment (approximately 2,000) made an all night assault on two hills held by two platoons of Company G, 23rd Infantry (total strength, 96). The hills were finally taken by the Chinese at dawn after 90 of the 96 defenders were either killed or wounded. A counter attack by the 2nd Battalion recaptured the two hills on the afternoon of February 14. On one of the hills, 523 dead Chinese bodies were counted. About 60% of them had been killed with rifle-fire and a great majority of this 60% had been shot through the head or the upper chest. This illustrates the superior marksmanship of these Infantry riflemen who were shooting at the attacking Chinese under starlight (no moon was visible on this night) and the occasional illuminating light of flares.

Because of reduced strength, each rifle company only operated from 3 to 4 sniper rifles. These were issued to Expert riflemen or men who had demonstrated their shooting ability. I personally know of one U. S. sniper who in a seven day period killed 17 North Korean soldiers at ranges from 400 to 1,000 yards.

"The use of aimless fire, of course, is not to be condoned, but if the writer is referring to 'marching fire,' I disagree with him. 'Marching fire,' also called assault fire, is where each individual rifleman, while advancing, stops, fires an aimed shot at known or suspected enemy emplacements or fox holes, advances a few more steps and then fires another aimed shot and so on. 'Marching fire' was always used by this battalion (2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry) when assaulting. It made the enemy between the advancing troops and the 'walking' 81 mm. mortar barrage, moving 100 to 150 yards in front of the troops, keep their heads down until the advancing Infantrymen assaulted them with bayonets. 'Marching fire' saves many lives.

"I disagree with the following statements: 'The average rifleman is not well trained, and will not fire in combat'; 'The rifleman doesn't fire his weapon enough in training to gain confidence in it'; 'He's afraid to fire because he will draw fire'; 'Good shooting is the exception' and 'The men just won't fire!' In assault 90 to 95 of the riflemen fired; in the defense the percentage was even higher. During the bloody Naktong Defense, August 3 to September 16, almost every man in the battalion, including the Battalion Commander and his staff were firing. The men have the utmost confidence in the M-1, Browning automatic rifle, light machine gun and the heavy machine gun.

"The criticism of the transition range is not entirely justified. Although the mounds may disclose the location of targets, still the ranges are not known to the student and he does not know from behind which mound his target will appear. Targets can be alternated at will; e.g., the first target can appear at 200 yards, the second at 800 yards, and the third at 400 yards. This forces the student to make rapid range estimations and sight adjustments and become proficient in making them, which are pre-requisites to accurate shooting and the mounds, the troops in Korea many times encountered enemy soldiers behind similar burial mounds, behind rice paddy dikes or in mud huts. Before a coordinated assault is made the general location and sometimes the specific locations of the enemy troops have been determined beforehand by patrols and the definite location of targets are not as unrealistic as the writer would have the reader believe.

"It has been proven that the present training with the U. S. M-1 rifle produces riflemen who can, and who do, adequately perform their duties in combat." ◆ ◆ ◆

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**NATIONAL WOMEN'S SMALLBORE CHAMPIONSHIP**—Second and third places in the National Women's Smallbore Championship were reported incorrectly last month in the report "1951 National Rifle and Pistol Matches" (page 22). Betty Ingleright of Buchanan, Michigan placed second, with a score of 3144, to winner Elinor Bell's 3148, and Tressa Dodge of Boise, Idaho was third with 3143. Tressa Dodge also won the Women's Open Any Sight Aggregate with a score of 1584.

# That Hunt at Jasper Hill

**The dogs and drivers failed to raise the stag Old Testament invited us to hunt. And then . . .**

**By Archibald Rutledge**

**Illustrated by Gib Crockett**

WHEN YOU ARE hunting in the old plantation region of South Carolina, you are sure to encounter many names that antedate the Revolution; names such as Brewton Hall, Essex Place, Medway, and Jasper. I have been told that this last place took its name from the fact that long, long ago there had been found, on the bluff overlooking the glamorous wide reaches of the lower Santee, a jasper arrowhead of exquisite workmanship, wrought by the craft of the Santees in those days when this delightful wilderness was theirs. But I don't hunt arrowheads on Jasper Hill; I hunt stags. And the plantation is of such a nature that I have seldom been disappointed in a visit to that wild and romantic deserted estate.

During the last days of December just passed, I had just about run all the deer off my own place, having with me a party of eager hunters who were fast-goers though not great executors. I was casting about in my mind for a neighboring place on which I might amiably trespass—the owner probably living in Richmond or Baltimore or some other Northern city. While in this frame of mind, who should come shambling up the road but Old Testament himself, the watchman of Jasper Hill—an ancient negro of religious air and bootleg habits. I could not be sure but that he was coming to try to drum up a little business with my guests. It is getting harder all the time for a man to get out of the Santee country without being more or less innocently burdened with some of the fruit-juices of that lost Eden.

"Well, you old muscadine murderer," I began, "have you hid the demijohns near the gate?"

Old Testament laughed behind the back of his hand.

"You mustn't let my little secret slip," he laughed. But at once he sobered up.

"Ain't dat dis time," he protested. "I want you gen'mens to come down to Jasper Hill and kill some of dem big able buck. Gettin' so I can hardly navigate after dark for the deer."

"I suppose you're afraid they'll eat up all the mash," I suggested.

"They eat up all my crop last summer, and they is jest waitin' for me to plant again. Ain't you gen'mens can help me?"

"We sure can," I told the venerable pleader. "I wish a man could stay good as easy as he can come to Jasper Hill to hunt a buck."

"I don't care if you shoot de whole gang, dem deer have me so tarrigate and worrigate dat I can't live reg'lar.

"Old Testament," I told him "this war is going to begin no later than this morning. And you might as well put on your pot."

Five of us hunters, each mounted, three negro drivers, all walking, and eleven dogs composed our party. The dogs were walking too. High hope was in our hearts, and in our hands were weapons supposed to be deadly for deer. But it's one thing to hunt a stag, and it's another thing entirely to bring him safely to bag. I do not know a hunting achievement quite equal to out-guessing an old whitetail.

Jasper Hill lay four miles to the south of us, down the river, and this distance we traversed in an hour. I had repeated to my comrades what Old Testament had told me; but while they accepted the story at its face value, I was by no means so sure of the entire truth of it. Sadly from experience have I learned that it is the buck that is cornered and just waiting for you to point-blank him which usually gets away. Deer hunting is just as much a matter of speculation as marriage.

In the Santee country, deer are hunted as they have been hunted in England since time immemorial; and as they have been hunted in that wild region since the first English and Huguenot settlements toward the end of the seventeenth century. We use horses and hounds. In other parts of the country dogs are forbidden, and for very good reasons; but where the cover is dense even in midwinter, and where the swamps are impenetrable, and the trails mazy and obscure, hounds are essential. Moreover, one has the feeling that their use is legitimate; and, feeling thus, the sport certainly is enhanced by the music of a good pack. With Smut and Smoke, Check and Mate, Ringwood, Drum and Fife, and other dogs of less high-sounding appellations and certainly less noble heritage, we invaded Jasper Hill. The five of us took stands on the old plantation road, now little more than a grassgrown trail, while the negro drivers took the pack into the sweet wilderness adjacent to the river.

It was the kind of morning that makes the midwinter of the South the most delightful season of the year. The

**"I want you gen'mens to come down to Jasper Hill and kill some of dem big able buck. Gettin' so I can hardly navigate after dark for the deer"**

frost of the night before had been melted away by the genial sun. Aromatic airs breathed from the towering yellow pines, from the needles of which the dew-drops slipped sparklingly to the ground. Towhees rustled in the leaves under the shadowy copses. A Carolina wren was singing his free and joyous song. High in the morning heavens flocks of teal and mallards sped on their way to their feeding grounds in the marshes of the delta. The fragrant forest glimmered away on all sides, awakening, radiant, roseate, brimming with a nameless enchantment. As far as the day was concerned, it was perfect. But what would the harvest of our hunt be?

When the deer of the southern pinelands are roused by hounds and drivers from their daytime drowsing in thickets and sunny sanctuaries of broomsedge amid old logs and stumps, they are far more likely, unless they are suddenly pressed, to use their old craft of skulking than they are to flee wildly before pursuers. When it comes to the matter of achieving the honor of sneaking out of a drive non-committally, hang the costliest medal on a wary old stag.

I could hear our drivers whooping, whistling, beating their clubs against pines. Now and then I heard a dog give a yelp as if he had information that he had the track of some kind of game. But really nothing happened until the drivers were almost within sight; and I had begun to have in my heart some feelings derogatory to the reputation of Old Testament, when this business began. How shall I ever forget those dramatic moments at Jasper Hill? A deer-hunter may forget to go to church; he may forget whether he married Grace or Glorianna; he may kiss the door and slam his secretary; but he cannot forget a big time in the woods—down to the last detail. If he does, order the crepe.

The driver nearest me, Steve Boykin, had begun to abate his shouting; and I saw him assault a pine very negligently with his huge club. He was so close that I could see that he was muttering—probably assailing the pedigree of Old Testament. Between Steve and me was a little pond not a quarter of an acre in extent. Hunters of the Santee country know that a buck loves a pond. A whitetail seems to me most at home close to water. This pond was fringed by baybushes and sweet myrtles. A single cypress spired from its placid bosom far into the placid sky. Toward it Steve came, remembering my injunction to be particular about ponds. Now Steve was singing. You should have seen him and have heard him. His mouth was such that when it opened there wasn't much chance left of seeing Steve. He was gloomily warbling about God's gattling gun that shot all sinners at the rising of the sun. Dramatically this song changed.

"Great guns, Cap'n!" he yelled, as if seventeen devils had set upon him, "look out for de ole man. . . . Oh, don't miss de ole man!" he wailed.

Out of the thin fringe of bushes on the edge of the quiet little pond the great buck sailed. He had been there all the time I had been standing in the road—not a hundred yards from me. One giant leap carried him clear of the bushes; another one shot him about thirty feet farther into some breast-high golden broomsedge. There, to my amazement, with Steve, close on him, yelling as if he had found salvation or a watermelon or something like that, the splendid stag came to a full stop. With almost any kind of a rifle I would have been afforded a beautiful shot. But in such hunting, in those level woods, it is an unwritten law that every man must use a shotgun.

There stood the magnificent stag, "reading his book," as the negroes say, to determine "where do we go from here?" In deadliest peril a deer can be deliberate. He is too intelligent to run anywhere incontinently, like a sheep, just because he happens to be startled. As he now stood, he was going to run parallel to all standers, at about the same distance that he was from me. He might run back, or he might come my way. It is exceedingly hard to drive a deer toward danger when he has been driven toward danger before.

I was afraid to shout to Steve to get around him for fear that I would throw sand in the bearings. Here was Big News in sight, but would any of us ever be able to tell it?

For a full minute the stately wildwood creature estimated his chances. For me, I think, the moment was as dramatic as it was for him. The scene is indelibly photographed on my memory. Clearly out of the past comes that scene, with the magnificent stag, his eyes gleaming with attentive light, standing almost within gunshot, paying not the slightest attention to Steve yelling behind him. Of course deer get so used to seeing negroes and to hearing them shout in the turpentine woods in which these dusky persons toil from tree to tree all summer, that I have frequently been persuaded that deer pay less attention to negro rovers of the woods than they do to white men. Nor would this be unnatural; for it is a law of the caste system of the South that negroes shall not kill deer.

I suppose that the other standers had guessed from the outcry of Steve that something was afoot. All the hounds, however, were silent, having followed the other drivers, and having struck no trail.

For a moment the fate of our hunt hung in the balance; then the buck made his decision. He leaped quartering out of the drive to my right, his course bringing him within eighty yards of me. That distance is a very unsatisfactory one for buckshot, and it is especially so when a man thinks that, by taking a long chance, he may spoil a much better shot for one of his friends. I have known many a hunter to take such a chance; then, having botched the whole business, to declare that he had merely shot to "turn the deer," imputing to himself a generous motive that had never been his.

It was now my turn to decide; the stag had played his card. I decided not to shoot, but to show myself, turning the buck in toward Weston, the next stander. I did not know that Weston, having seen the drivers and dogs approaching him listlessly, had left his stand and had gone forward to meet him. His stand was wide open.

My maneuver had the effect of making the old stag run a stately curve over the next stand. Seeing him take the right course, I just waited to hear the shot. Steve, meanwhile, was whooping as if a hant had him.

Straight over the stand went the great buck; he might have run over and trampled Weston had he been at the spot. I stooped down to see if I could catch a sight of the stander actually shooting the buck. But Weston was farther from the fugitive than I was. Apparently the tormentor of Old Testament's crops was heading for the open woods, with nothing ahead to stop him. But a green hunter sometimes does a lucky thing. Ashmead, the man next to Weston, had likewise left his stand, having gone behind it some distance to try to get a shot at a fox squirrel. Now, with both barrels loaded with buck-shot, he suddenly become aware of the apparition of the great stag coming head-on for him. He was in the right spot, but he had the wrong load. He must have jumped when he saw the deer, for the deer saw him; and deer do not usually see anything except what moves. I mean that their power of recognition is not good.

The Jasper Hill stag, thinking himself clear, and suddenly confronted by an enemy, just reversed himself completely and came rushing back to the place whence he had just come. Ashmead meanwhile brushed off both haunches with loads of number 4's at a long distance, the only effect of which was to make the old stag speed up. The sound of the gun having made us alert we now saw the old buck coming back straight for us.

At such a time it seems to me *(Continued on page 44)*

# THE GRAND AMERICAN

By Johnny Mock

**THOUSANDS OF ENTHUSIASTIC SCATTERGUNNERS GATHERED RECENTLY AT A LITTLE OHIO TOWN TO COMPETE FOR PRIZES IN THE TRAPSHOOTING CLASSIC**

ONCE AN annually productive field of oats and corn; now the periodical source of a 'crop' of lead—and 'dark horses'. Such is the distinction which goes to a plot of ground situated in western-central Ohio. Located at Vandalia—the community which likes to term itself the Nation's Crossroads, because there the National Pike, Route 40, running East and West, meets the Dixie Highway, Route 25, going North and South—it is the permanent home of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.

Each year, during the latter part of August, the tiny rural village of Vandalia gains international prominence, for it is the site of the annual Grand American, trapshooting's most outstanding affair.

Actually, these yearly tournaments are the world's largest scattergun classic, drawing hundreds of entries from practically every State in the Union, several of the Provinces of Canada, the Canal Zone, Alaska and Cuba.

It is the mecca of trapdom. There gather followers of trapshooting from all walks of life—men, woman and children—rich and poor, young and old, weak and strong, shouldering a shotgun, calling for the elusive clay targets, pressing the trigger, and hoping fate will smile upon them.

Day after day, during the tourney, it goes on—a monotonous and seemingly never-ending cry of "Pull!", followed by the announcement of the referee. Invariably, the cry is "Dead!" for there are assembled the best of the continent's trapshooters who compete for numerous crowns.

No organization is more generous with the distribution of titles than the ATA. The 1951 program of the tournament, held between August 19, and August 25, listed no less than 42 championships. In addition, at least four others were awarded to successful entrants.

Well over a million shells are expended at these events. With one and one-eighth ounces of shot pellets in each, more than 40 tons of lead is deposited on the sod beyond the traphouses. This 'crop' is periodically harvested and reclaimed.

Trapshooting is a rather ancient sport when compared with most present-day recreations, deriving its name from the fact that once live birds were imprisoned in traps and then fired upon when released at the call of the shooter.

Various authorities place its beginning around the year 1750, with the first organized effort toward furthering the sport being made in 1810—on the other side of the Atlantic.

First mention of shooting trapped birds in this country came in 1831, at the Sportsman's Club in Cincinnati, Ohio.

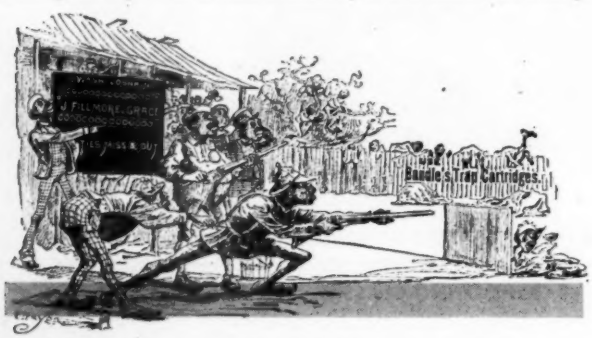
As conducted today, the elements of trapshooting are much the same as a century ago excepting that 'clay' targets have replaced live birds and mechanical devices are used to liberate and give the necessary flight to the 'birds.'

George Ligowsky of Cincinnati is generally credited with inventing what eventually was developed into the modern target, as well as the trap used to put it 'on wing'. The time is placed at sometime around 1870.

An Englishman named McClasky also concerned himself with the sport, originating a target made of pitch and sand. It became known as the 'blue rock'. He also introduced a trap called the 'Expert', names which are familiar to modern trapshooters. No doubt, McClasky, too, played an important part in bringing the sport into its present popularity when he began his activities in 1880.

While trapshooting has undergone little change over the years, mechanically, however, there have been great strides. In fact, so much progress has been made that at the 1951 Grand American one person served as a combination of trap puller, referee, and scorer—all made possible through an electrical attachment which sets and springs the trap.

Eventually, no doubt, even the boy who places the target in position on the trap will be eliminated. By no means an idle dream, such a device has been in use for a number of years, though only on a limited scale involving few individuals. Leave it to American ingenuity—the time when the hand-loading of traps will be but a memory is not far in the offing.




As is probably known to most RIFLEMAN readers, the 12-gauge shotgun is the standard firearm. ATA rules require the use of No. 7½ or No. 8 shot, loaded no heavier than three drams of powder and one and one-eighth ounces of shot. Copperized pellets are prohibited.

Since the sport has been organized, three types of events have been adopted for competition—singles, which are shot at from 'scratch', or the 16-yard line; handicap, where the shooter is penalized according to his ability, ranging from 17 to 25 yards; and doubles, fired from the 16-yard line, in which two targets are released simultaneously, one to the right, the other to the left.

In all three events the shooting is done from five positions, firing at five targets from each. The 25 targets are called an 'event'. At the 16-yard marker, shooters stand three feet apart. In handicap, shooters are moved back from the scratch marker, the positions varying one yard in each instance, and gradually fanning away from each other to the extreme 25-yard line.

The target, in singles and in doubles, emerges from the traphouse at 16 yards from the shooter. A regulation target travels at about 50 yards per second when it makes its appearance. By the time the trigger is pulled the target has flown from 35 to 40 yards. Skilled trapshooters usually shatter their targets at distances from 32 to 35 yards.

The narrow-alignment types of shotguns have been most popular—single barrel, over and under, and the pump or slide-action repeater. Double-barrels, except for the twin-target event, have never gained the same popularity, many shooters believing the broader sighting plane reduces the possibility of accurate gun-pointing.

In recent years there seems to have come about a gradual departure from both the single and double-barreled arms, preference going to the repeater types. Some believe the trend will continue and eventually bring into the picture the auto-loading type, or so-called automatic shotgun.

Contributing to the popularity of the automatic is its legalization by such states as Pennsylvania, which now permits small game and varmint hunters to arm themselves with auto-loaders, which have been outlawed since 1905.

Another interesting change is that of the shooters going from the long-accepted No. 7½ pellets to the No. 8's. A shell loaded with No. 7½'s will have approximately 394 pellets, while a No. 8 will have 461. Practically all trap-shooters resort to the full-choke barrel, which places 70 percent or more of the shot in a 30-inch circle at 40 yards. On the basis of 70 percent, the No. 7½'s number 276, whereas with No. 8's the circle would contain 323, an advantage of 47 more pellets, which many have come to accept as the difference between a 'lost' or a 'dead' bird.

In comparison, the larger No. 7½'s are about two percent faster than the smaller No. 8's over ordinary trapshooting distances. But the variation is so small few shooters take it into consideration—about one inch difference in the position of the target at 33 yards, assuming the target is traveling at the rate of about 40 feet per second. What it amounts to is a choice by the shooter as to whether he prefers the slightly higher velocity and individual pellet energy of the No. 7½, or the denser pattern of the No. 8 pellets.

At the 1951 Grand American preference for the latter reached the point where almost half of the entries called for the smaller shot, whereas only a few years ago hardly any shooter would think of using No. 8's.

Almost the same thing is coming true with the powder charge, many shooters going from the three-dram load to one of two and three-quarter drams. The average velocity over 40 yards, in a 30-inch full-choke barrel, differs only 30 feet per second, that of the three dram load being 870 feet per second while the two and three-quarter dram load gives a velocity of 840 feet per second.

When it comes to being fastidious, there is no group which is more concerned with the proper fit of the gun than the trapshooters—and justly so, for upon it can depend the hit or miss of a target and the loss of just one can mean the difference of several thousands of dollars.

The stock must be of the correct measurement; the barrel must be of the right length; the comb must be of a certain height; the heel must meet definite specifications. Too short, the stock can easily be the cause of injuries. Improper fit can readily produce a result similar to grasping a mule by the tail.

One shooter will favor a Monte Carlo stock; another, a short pistol grip, while a third will choose the old-fashioned straight stock. Each has his own particular preference, which will give him a comfortable stance in which gun, hands, arms, shoulders, and head are joined together in a single unit.

Competition, it can readily be understood, is terrific.

For instance, the North American Clay Target Championship. This event was adopted and placed on a permanent

basis in 1919. Since that time the annual champions have dropped but 25 targets, giving them the rather impressive combined score of 6575 out of a possible 6600.

Another race is that of the Champion of Champions, in which the various State singles champions compete with each other at the annual tournament. During the past eleven years those champions failed to shatter perfect scores in but four instances, giving them a 1096 out of 1100.

More remarkable was the record established during the 1951 tournament when five State champions each broke 100 targets in the main event and then an additional 100 in the shoot-off, giving them the enviable mark of 1000 out of a possible 1000. Incidentally, the winner of that event was compelled to smash another 60 targets, making it 260 straight to take over the crown.

On the other hand, scores like that of Joe Hiestand, Hillsboro, Ohio, ace still stand—900 out of a possible 900—shot during the 1938 classic. In following registered shoots, he added to the string of successively-broken targets, breaking it with his 1180th bird, giving him the world's long run record of 1179.

Just as outstanding is the feat of Walter Beaver of Berwyn, Pennsylvania. During the 52 years in which the Grand American Handicap has been in competition, 45,351 gunners have toed the various handicap markers, but Walter is the only one ever able to capture trapdom's most coveted title and richest prize from "out in the meadow"—the 25-yard line. He broke 98 out of the 100 targets. Incidentally, during all its years of competition, the Grand American Handicap has been won only five times with a perfect score of 100.

Few persons will have any idea of the terrific pounding a trapshooter takes throughout the tournament. Assuming he or she participates in the entire program, a total of 1700 targets will have been fired at. The recoil of each shell is said to be equal to 26 pounds being dropped one foot—foot-pounds, as it is termed. Those who shoot all of the events will have absorbed a shock of 44,200 pounds.

Regardless of the beating, shooters take it day after day. And the incapacitated do so the same as the well and able. It is nothing unusual to see a trapshooter being taken to his position in a wheel-chair, then being moved from post to post as the shoot progresses. A shooter sitting astride a cane-stool is a common sight. Other physical impairments are overcome through various means.

Physical handicaps—where they could be overcome—are no bar to the trapshooters, as is evidenced at the Vandalia grounds. For instance, the chap who lost the use of his right eye. To enable him to continue shooting from the right shoulder he had a sighting bar attached to the left of the gun barrel, permitting him to aim with the left eye—and creditable scores have been attained.

Eighteen-year-old Michael E. Wayland of Washington, Kansas won the Grand American Handicap this year

Others, who have been constant visitors throughout the years but are no longer able to compete still keep coming to their old, familiar haunts. During the recent tournament, two former winners of the Grand American Handicap were present. Though unable to participate in the actual shooting, they were as close to it as ever by operating the traps, throw-

Dr. W. J. Hoistendahl of Sioux City, Iowa finds a shooting stick of aid at ATA's trapshooting classic

A sighting bar offset to the left enables Horace Aldritt of Excelcior, Minnesota to shoot trap

Though confined to wheel chair, A. Swanson of Kansas City, Kansas is still shooting at clay birds

ing the targets to the other chaps instead of calling for them, announcing the result instead of listening to it, doing the scoring instead of making it.

Yes, they were still part of the annual assemblage, as much a part of it as those on the firing line.

No winner of the Grand American Handicap has ever been able to stage a comeback. The tradition is that no one ever repeats and that reputation held good during the 1951 tourney, but not so with the juniors—shooters like Rudy Etchen, Ned Lily, Bobby Stifal. Back in their boyhood days they were champions, winners of the junior and sub-junior crowns. Today, matured, they are still in there winning laurels. In 1950 Rudy Etchen scored a perfect in doubles—a world's record. This year he again captured the doubles coronet, having had possession of it four times during the past five years. Ned won the Champion of Champions title after a terrific shoot-off which resulted in a new world's record. It was Lily who was compelled to smash 260 successive targets to gain the laurels. Bobby took the Class AA championship of 1951 from a field of the continent's greatest trapshots.

The 'tented city' on the ATA grounds is an interesting institution. In it are found shooters from every section of the country, comfortably housed. Others have their accommodations in more elaborate trailers.

In days gone by many of the campers prepared their own meals, and the delightful aroma of frying bacon and eggs and boiling coffee was wafted about the grounds. Today, however, few do their own cooking, the ATA having provided a restaurant which serves excellent meals at reasonable cost.

'Industry Row' is present, a sight well-known to many of the older rifle shooters. Here the visitor may have a gun repaired; be fitted for shooting glasses; purchase a shell case; select a gun stock or have a recoil pad attached; get the feel of what's new in rifles and shotguns; relax in comfortable chairs, and watch the colorful crowd passing by or listen to the post-mortems of their fellow shooters.

The pros of the arms and ammunition concerns, neatly dressed, greet the folks from the home town and those from their districts. Friendships built up over the passing years, are renewed annually as acquaintances are met promenading about the well-kept grounds.

Here is truly America, with its thrills, joys and pleasures, its sorrows and disappointments. One moment on the threshold of fame and fortune, the next moment but another of hundreds of shooters. Here a squad of five may include a Texas cattle baron, a Pennsylvania coal miner, a Tennessee high school girl, a Michigan truck driver, and a Connecticut preacher. Some squads will have youngsters of a tender age, grizzled old veterans, mothers and fathers—big shooters and little shooters; some with the cry of "Pull!" like that of a bull moose, others with a squeak like that of a mouse.

Yes, here is America with its democracy—where the blue bloods get no more recognition than those in whose veins flows the rich, red blood of the grandest and greatest nation on earth; where a shattered target is "Dead!" and a missed target is "Lost!" ♦ ♦ ♦

## That Hunt at Jasper Hill

**Continued from page 40**

slightly better not to shoot a friend than to kill a deer; and I called to the gunners to be careful. All of us except Ashmead were close together; and with us were the drivers and lolling hounds. And this was as strange a situation as a hunter will ever encounter.

Here were four guns, a crowd of dogs, a bunch of drivers; and here was a beautiful buck, heavy-racked, coming straight for us on about seven of his eight cylinders. You would think he was hunting us. Then I saw what a man seldom sees unless he is dealing with a badly wounded deer: the buck, seeing the hounds but apparently not aware of us, lowered his head and charged straight through the whole pack of waiting dogs. And they were so amazed that they dodged, skulked, and ran. We, too, made way. Here, then, was the singular spectacle of a stag scattering dogs and men before him. The whole thing awoke in the drivers emotions of superstitious nature.

"Dat's a token," I heard Steve mutter, meaning one of these supernatural goin's-on.

In a moment the stag had passed us, entering a pine thicket beyond the road. As he was vanishing, four guns blared out, giving him an especial salute of honor of eight barrels, speeding after his broad white tail about a hundred and fifty buckshot. I saw the tops of several little pines jump off. But so did the deer. As far as I could see, he was heading for the tangled wilds of Jasper Hill, and for freedom. To make matters worse, the demoralized drivers let the dogs get away, and in a moment they were yowling merrily on the buck's trail. From the way they were going, our shots had merely encouraged the buck in his flight.

"Great guns," lamented Steve, "but he got a ham same like the top of a barrel."

"And the horns," said Ashmead, who breathlessly joined us, "did you ever see such antlers?"

"I ought to done knock him in the head with my stick when he passed me," Steve muttered inconsolably, and with no especial compliment to our shooting.

"Hold on," said Weston suddenly, "I can't hear the dogs."

When a pack of hounds after a wounded deer suddenly "shuts up," there is a practical certainly that the deer has been overhauled.

Away we thronged through the woods; and a half-mile from where we had done the shooting we came upon the great Jasper Hill stag, stretched on the forest-floor, the hounds ranged around him.

"I dunno whether it was de shootin' or de scarin' what done make him fall," said Steve, "but here he is anyway."

Five of us had shot at him; but Ashmead had only dusted him. Of the four of us who poured two barrels apiece after his fleeing form, which one had held true? Not each one of us, certainly, for there were only two buckshot in him.

At any rate, the stag was ours. We had raided Old Testament's Jasper Hill domain; and while we hadn't interfered with stills or other treasures, we carried away what I think was the chief prize of that old plantation. ♦ ♦ ♦

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**NEXT MONTH**—*Cleves Howell reports on the amazing rifle fashioned by Sir Joseph Whitworth, famous English engineer. Readers will armchair visit the 1951 matches at England's famous Bisley range. Other articles will include .22 and .38 bullet penetration, and .45 pistol shooting.*

# THE SPOTTING SCOPE -- December 1951

Chairmen and secretaries of the Olympic Rifle and Olympic Pistol Shooting Committees met in New York last Nov. 7. Frank Parsons, of Washington, D. C., was selected as 1952 captain of the American rifle and pistol squad which will compete in the International Shooting Union World Championships at Oslo, Norway from July 6 to 17 and in the Olympic Games at Helsinki, Finland. The Olympic games run from July 19 to 29 with the shooting events taking place from the 25th to the 29th. Information concerning preliminary qualifications and final team tryouts will be published in the January RIFLEMAN. . . . Henry P. Davis, director of information for Remington Arms Company, is working on two new books. Both on dogs, they are entitled "Hunting Dogs and Their Uses" and "Training Hunting Dogs." . . . Milton E. Hicks has been appointed Domestic Sales Manager of Smallarms Division, Colt Manufacturing Company. Milt was formerly a Field Representative and Sales Promotion Manager of Handgun Division, Remington Arms. . . . City Council of Milwaukee is now fining little boys for the possession or use of pea-shooters. . . . A recent check of the pistol record book revealed that National Champion Huelet 'Joe' Benner, of Ft. Knox, Ky., has fired four major records in the last two years. In 1949 Benner set the .22 caliber aggregate record at 891. In 1950 Benner raised the .45 caliber aggregate to 882 and the three-gun aggregate to 2644. Joe took care of the center-fire aggregate early this year, setting the standard at 885.

The Treasury Department has disbanded the War Trophy Safety Committees which were created on May 18, 1947. At one time over 20,000 volunteer workers, most of them NRA members, all over the country were active in the program. Their work resulted in the examination and deactivation of hundreds of thousands of automatic guns, grenades, shells and other dangerous ordnance brought home by members of the Armed Forces from World War II battlefields. . . . The RIFLEMAN is still seeking issues of volume 23 published in 1897 and 1898. Numbers 3, 12 and 26 are now in the Washington office, but all others are missing. Information leading to location of other issues would be appreciated. . . . Lt. Commander J. P Gutting, head of the Navy Department's Recreation and Physical Fitness Branch, is readying a strong Navy rifle and pistol team for next summer's competition. Fourteen or fifteen of the Navy's best shots will be ordered to Quantico early next spring for a period of intensive training before the outdoor season begins. . . . Captain John M. Jagoda, one of the Marines' top pistol shooters at the National Championships and a member of the strong Quantico Marine Corps School team for the last several years, is now stationed on the aircraft carrier, Coral Sea. Chief Petty Officer Leonard Rizzola, after returning from San Francisco, was transferred to the carrier Tarawa. . . . The public schools of Sandusky, Ohio, have included gunsmithing as part of the Adult Education program. Edgar Warner, of Port Clinton, acts as instructor. . . . The annual convention of the League of Ohio Sportsmen will be held in Columbus from March 5th to 9th. . . . Hal H. Harrison, outdoors editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, has contracted with the Pennsylvania Game Commission to produce a 1,200 foot natural color sound motion picture for use in Pennsylvania schools. The film will follow the theme of Harrison's new book, "Outdoors Adventures.". . . Bob Becker, nationally known outdoor editor of the Chicago Tribune, has just celebrated his thirtieth year with the paper. . . . The 1950 edition of the NRA "Uniform Hunter Casualty Report" is now available at 40 cents per individual copy. Discounts on bulk orders. . . . In two years of operation the 794 NRA approved Junior Hunter Schools in New York State have graduated 7,104 young hunters. None of the students have been involved in an accident. . . . A Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all of you from all of us at NRA headquarters.

Paul Cardinal

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White, S. M.—Beginner's Ballistics, Part I, Feb. 34; Part II, March 22; Part III, April 22; Conclusion, May 36
Whitetail Deer—Moyer, J., Oct. 20; Hunting the Whitetail, Maine, L. L., Oct. 21
Wilkins, F.—Care and Cleaning of Antique Guns, Nov. 42
Wills, C.—Hunting Bighorn Sheep, Aug. 17
Wilson, A.—Mister X, July 50
Wimbledon Match—Accuracy and the Wimbledon Match, Keith, E., Aug. 10
Wingate, G. W.—Early Days of the NRA, May 32; Early Days of the NRA, Concluson, June 39
Woodman, L. L.—Hiram Berdon—Chief of the Sharpshooters, March 11
Work Bench—Gunsmith's Work Bench, Vickerman, W. S., Jan. 28
Year-Round Shooting—Smith, C. H., Jan. 20

# NRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAKES COMPETITION RULE CHANGES

The following competition rule changes were approved by the Executive Committee in its October 12, 1951 meeting:

**High Power:**

1) Delete rules 3-4 and 3-5.
2) Add new rule reading "Any rifle—A center fire rifle of any caliber or weight, not equipped with palm rest, Schuetzen type buttplate, nor trigger capable of set trigger functioning."

**Pistol:**

1) Add new rule 16-16 reading "No competitor shall touch his own target after it has been fired at until final score determination has been made. Final score determination is not reached until all challenge on a target has been settled."
2) Add to rule 5-20 the following "Penalty for violation of this rule is loss of the value of the shots of highest value equivalent in number to the number of shots loaded in violation of this rule or rule 5-17."
3) Add new rule 9-17 to Section 9 reading "When a new score is fired because of refire, the new score will be recorded in the sequence in which the new score is fired with respect to the completed strings fired earlier."

**Smallbore:**

Note: Changes 1 and 2 below are the result of the adoption of the 11-bull target for indoor use.

1) Change rule 5-2 to read "Time Limits —The time limit for gallery firing is 60 seconds for each shot (see rules 4-16, 4-17 and 4-18). Note: When the official target used provides a sighting bullseye, unlimited fouling and sighting shots will be allowed in each position of the match. Time will be continuous and no effort made to separate fouling, sighting and record shots. Example: Match of 10 record shots, 10 minutes time allowance."
2) Change rule 5-7 to read "Misplaced sighting shots and hits on wrong bullseye—(a) Where the official target used provides a sighting bullseye, and the first sighting shot hits outside the 3-inch guard ring of the sighting bullseye on the 11-bullseye target in such position that it might be mistaken by the scorer for a shot at a record bullseye, the competitor will inform the range officer of the location of such shot; the range officer will indicate to the statistical officer the value and location of the bullet hole. No such claim will be allowed after the competitor has fired more than one shot on a target card. (b) When more than the specified number of shots are fired at one bullseye but less than the specified number are fired at another bullseye on the same target card so that not more than the required number of shots are fired at the one target card, the competitor will be scored the actual value of his hits minus one penalty point for each shot fired at a wrong bullseye."
3) Change rule 10-4 to read "Events used for Individual Classification—Scores to be used for classification and reclassification will be those fired in registered events in NRA Registered Tournaments and NRA Registered Leagues over the following course of fire:

| *Outdoor* | *Gallery* |
|---|---|
| Dewar Course | 50 feet, prone |
| 50 meters | 50 feet, standing |
| 50 yards | 75 feet, prone |
| 100 yards | 75 feet, standing |

Individual and team match scores indoors will be used as will both metallic and any sight match scores. Matches may be fired outdoors or indoors. Scores fired indoors over outdoor courses will not be used for classification, nor will any team match score fired outdoors be used."

## INDOOR SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the first time since the NRA has conducted shooting on a nation-wide scale a national indoor championship will be fired this season. The NRA Executive Committee has authorized holding thirty smallbore rifle and thirty pistol indoor sectional championships. These will be organized by the NRA and sponsored locally by affiliated clubs. Scores fired at all of the sectional championships will be ranked by the NRA to determine individual and team National indoor rifle and pistol champions.

The indoor sectionals will be fired from March 15 to April 30, 1952. As firing conditions on indoor ranges are uniform, each sectional tournament will schedule firing for as long a period of time as necessary to accommodate the expected number of competitors. Sectional sponsors are encouraged to squad matches to permit competitors to finish all firing on one trip to the range.

Each sectional tournament sponsor will provide programs, supplies, personnel, targets, etc., for his tournament. Essential program copy will be supplied in manuscript by the NRA. The NRA will furnish the awards in each sectional championship aggregate as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Winner | Gold Filled Medal |
| Second Place | Sterling Silver Medal |
| Third, Fourth & Fifth Places, | Bronze Medals |
| High Lady | Sterling Silver Medal |
| High Junior | Sterling Silver Medal |

Sectionals having more than 100 competitors in the sectional championship aggregate will be furnished additional bronze place medals on the basis of one medal for each ten competitors over 100.

**Class Awards**

(In Expert, Sharpshooter and Marksman classes.)

| | |
|---|---|
| High in each class | Silver Medal |
| Second and Third | Bronze Medals |

Sectionals having more than 30 competitors in any class in the sectional championship aggregate will be furnished additional bronze class awards, in the class concerned, on the basis of one bronze medal for each ten competitors over 30.


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Fully illustrated, 96 pages, showing Hunting Footwear, Clothing, and fifty-two other leather and canvas specialties of our own manufacture for campers and hunters.

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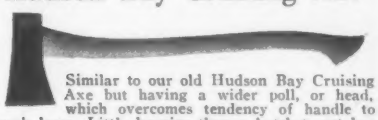
**Hudson Bay Cruising Axe**



Similar to our old Hudson Bay Cruising Axe but having a wider poll, or head, which overcomes tendency of handle to work loose. Little heavier than a hatchet, yet has a wide cutting blade and 24" hardwood handle so that it will do practically the same work as a full-sized axe. Weight 1¾ lbs. Price $4.55 postpaid with a solid leather shield.

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| Price Postpaid | |
|---|---|
| 6 inch | $ 8.35 |
| 8 inch | 9.35 |
| 10 inch | 10.85 |
| 12 inch | 11.85 |
| 14 inch | 14.35 |
| 16 inch | 16.35 |

Widths D, EE and FF
Price includes both Men's and Ladies'
Men's sizes 5 to 13
Special narrow last for Ladies
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Whole Sizes Only

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Winchester Trap, Model 12, Monte Carlo selected pistol grip stock, 30", full choke, ventilated rib 228.25
Winchester Skeet, Model 12, selected stock, 12 ga. 26", skeet bore, ventilated rib ..... 213.70
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We carry over 200 shotguns in Winchester, Remington, Browning, Stevens, Marlin, Mossberg, and Ithaca. Let us know your desires. We pay postage and insure your choice.

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**RIFLES**

Winchester, Model 70's, .375 Magnum, .300 Magnum, 30-06, .270, .257, 22 Hornet ..... $126.50
Winchester, Model 70's, Super grade 30-06 and .22 Hornet ..... 187.70
Winchester, Model 71, .348 Winchester caliber, sporting rear sight ..... 104.90
Winchester, Model 71, .348 Winchester caliber, deluxe grade ..... 128.65
Winchester, Model 94 carbine, 30-30, and .32 Special ..... 72.15
Winchester, Model 43, .218 Bee, .22 Hornet .... 63.45
Winchester, Model 52, Target rifle, standard weight barrel without sights ..... 99.75
with sights ..... 126.75
Winchester, Model 52, Target rifle, heavy weight barrel without sights ..... 111.80
with sights ..... 135.60
Savage, Model 99, 250-3000, .300 Savage ..... 111.50
Remington, Model 721, 30-06, .270, .300 H & H Magnum ..... 103.90
Remington, Model 722, 300 Savage, .257, .222 Remington ..... 86.55
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S. & W. 38 Terrier ..... 58.00
S. & W. 38/44 Outdoorsman, 6⅝" bbl. ..... 84.75
Colt Match target, 4½" and 6" barrels ..... 85.00
Colt Woodsman, 4½" and 6" barrels ..... 70.00
Colt Challenger, 4½" 6" barrels ..... 52.50
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New! Colt Cobra, .38 Special, .38 New Police, .32 New Police, 2" bbl. ..... 68.50
Colt Police Positive, .38 Special ..... 65.00
Colt Official Police, .38 Special, .22 calibers ... 65.00
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Ruger, .22 caliber, 4" barrel ..... 37.50

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250-3000, Western ..... Per 100 $9.59
300 Savage, Western ..... Per 100 9.59
8 mm, Remington ..... Per 100 9.99
218 Bee, Western ..... Per 100 5.62
22 Hornet, Western ..... Per 100 5.62

POWDER
Du Pont #4198, #4227, #4064, #4350...per lb. 2.30
Hercules #2400, $2.40, Hi-Vel #2, $2.40, Unique $2.00, Bullseye ..... 1.90

PRIMERS
Winchester, Remington, Western in large rifle, small rifle, and large pistol and small pistol sizes ..... per 100 .83

**BULLETS**

Powder & Primers sold only with reasonable orders for bullets or reloading equipment.

SIERRA BULLETS
30 cal.; 125 gr. $4.25, 150 gr. ..... $ 4.50
.270 cal. 110 gr. $4.25, 130 gr. $4.50, 150 gr.... 4.75
25 cal. 87 gr. $3.75, 100 gr. $3.85, 117 gr. H.V. 4.00
22 cal. soft point, 45 gr., 50 gr., 55 gr. Spitzer 2.75
22 cal. soft point, 40 gr., 45 gr. Hornet ..... 2.25

WINCHESTER & WESTERN BULLETS
30-30 cal. 150 gr. open point expanding cannelured, R. N.; 150 gr. Soft point cannelured, R. N.; 150 gr. Hollow point cannelured, 150 gr., Silvertip cannelured..$5.59 per 100
30-06 cal. 150 gr. open point expanding cannelured, R. N. 150 gr. Soft Point cannelured, R. N., 150 gr., Hollow point cannelured ..... 6.04 per 100
180 gr., Soft point cannelured ..... 5.00 per 100
.250 cal. 87 gr. ..... 4.99 per 100
.257 cal. 100 gr. $5.00, 117 gr. cannelured 5.00 per 100
.270 cal. 150 gr. soft point cannelured .... 5.00 per 100
8 mm cal. Remington, 170 gr. cannelured, soft point ..... 6.00 per 100
8 mm cal. M. G. S. 150 gr. ..... 5.00 per 100

HORNADY BULLETS
30 cal. 125 gr. $4.25, 150 gr. ..... $4.50
.270 cal. 130 gr. $4.50, 150 gr. ..... 4.75
.224 Hornet, 45 gr. ..... 2.50
.224 Spire point 50, 55 gr. ..... 2.75

SPEER BULLETS
30 cal. 180 gr. $4.75, 200 gr. ..... 4.90
.270 cal. 100 gr. ..... 4.00
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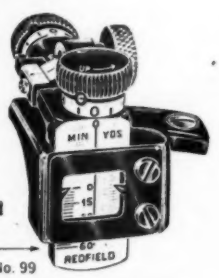


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Local sponsors will furnish other awards. Each sponsor will establish their own award schedule for matches other than the sectional championship aggregate.

Individual competitors may enter any sectional of their choosing but may enter only one sectional rifle championship tournament and one sectional pistol championship tournament during a calendar year. This applies to the entire tournament and not the championship aggregate, alone. Individuals may fire on only one team in a sectional team championship match during a calendar year.

The registration fee at all indoor sectional tournaments will be $2.00 per competitor, which will be paid to the NRA. This registration fee will automatically enter the individual in the National Indoor Championship.

The entry fee will not exceed $1.50 per match. All entry fees will be retained by the sponsor.

The minimum course of fire for each sectional is listed below. Additional matches may be added by sectional sponsors subject to the approval of the NRA.

### SMALLBORE RIFLE

Individual matches at 50 feet, any sights:

20 shots, prone
20 shots, sitting
20 shots, kneeling
20 shots, NRA offhand

The aggregate of these four matches will comprise the indoor sectional individual rifle championship. A four-man team match of ten shots in each of the four positions, any sights, will establish the team championship.

### PISTOL

Individual matches with .22 caliber pistol or revolvers at 50 feet.

20 shots, slow fire
20 shots, timed fire
20 shots, rapid fire
30 shots, three-stage course (slow, timed and rapid fire)

The aggregate of these four matches will comprise the indoor sectional pistol championship aggregate. A four-man team match over the three-stage course will establish the team championship.

A mailing has been sent to all NRA clubs and state associations outlining the regulations for conducting indoor sectional tournaments and including applications to be used by organizations wishing to enter bids to sponsor an indoor sectional tournament. These applications must be returned to the NRA prior to December 18, so that the sectional locations and dates can be announced in January.

## LADIES MATCHES

Competitive shooting is becoming increasingly popular among ladies. As a direct result, several changes have been made in the award schedules and match programs.

Sectional and national indoor championships award schedules include special awards for the high lady. All of next year's regional championship award schedules will include awards for the ladies. These changes complete a full season of top-level, shoulder-to-shoulder competition for the ladies.

Two new ladies indoor matches have

*(Continued on page 54)*

# Make it rough for Lynx Rufus

*Felis lynx rufus*—one of the common varieties of lynx, bobcat, wildcat or whatever he is called in your locality—is a bad actor. Beautiful, yes—but a predator that accounts for many a quail and rabbit and even pulls down deer when the snow is high.

When the lynx is on the rampage, you'll get a bang out of tracking him down and putting an end to his marauding. Remember, though, that conservation authorities recommend the control, not the extermination, of the lynx. He acts as a check against an overabundance of rodents and other small pests. See your local game regulations, too, before shooting the lynx.

Aside from controlling predators like the lynx, good sportsmen can also help conserve America's game by participating in local and national conservation programs.

N·R·A RANGER

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*WORLD-FAMOUS SINCE 1802*

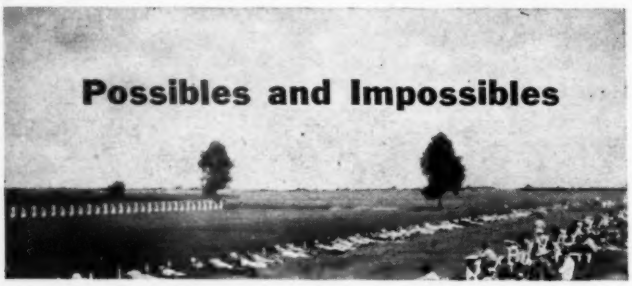
A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

# Rifle

Remto

VOL. 14, NO. 12

BRIDGEPORT, C DECEMB




During 1951, this column of the "Rifle News" was devoted, mostly, to the enjoyable task of passing along what we hope was useful information for shooters.

Like other sports, shooting is enjoyed most by those who do it well. Our purpose, then, was simply to help the beginning shooter to do better—and to help the experienced shooter to get a fuller degree of satisfaction from his sport.

* * *

It was brought to the tyro's attention that the difference between poor and good rifle shots, and between good and excellent shots, all lies in the relative excellence of their control of the trigger. A "trigger squeeze exercise" course was outlined to aid the tyro in achieving this excellence.

* * *

The importance of "dry shooting" (simulated firing with an empty gun) is too often overlooked by marksman and hunter alike. Since some of the nation's experts consider "dry shooting" a necessity in maintaining their enviable positions, we devoted an entire article to the subject.

* * *

The story about "the deer that got away" is familiar to most big game hunters . . . or at least to their wives. And in a great many of these cases, it is more than likely that faulty sight settings, rather than faulty aim or squeeze, were responsible for the lost deer. Therefore, we considered it important to stress correct pre-season sighting-in methods.

* * *

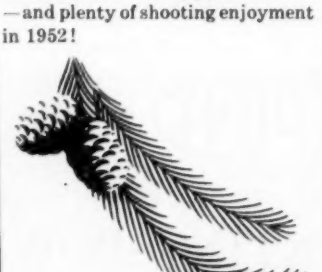
Shotgunners were told that "heads down" was the formula to apply for better wing shooting. Raising the head, with its consequence of shooting too high, has resulted in more crippled and lost game than, perhaps, any other shooting fault. Wing shooters were given a few simple tips on how to get the proper "sight picture," with stock to cheek, and make this prime essential of good shooting an instinctive movement.

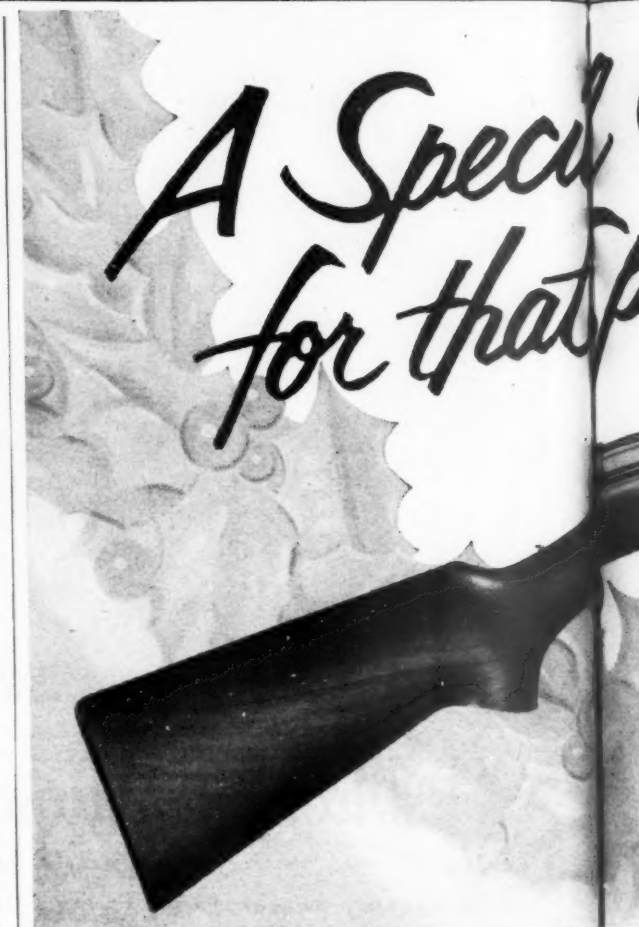
* * *

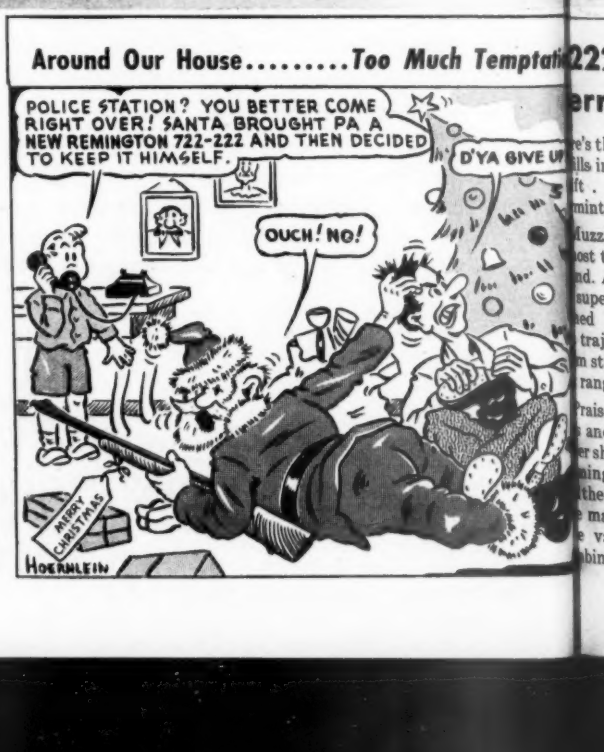
To the avid shooters, ballistics will always be intriguing. However, there are aspects of the subject that, except to ballisticians, can be pretty baffling. Since, in many instances, ballistics information can be used to further performance in the field or on the firing line, we felt it was important that the shooter get this information . . . in language he could understand without the assistance of a logarithm table. In the past year, articles were presented in this column on such subjects as: (1) the speed of shot pellets; and (2) technical efforts to improve accuracy performance.

* * *

Those were a few of the highlights of our editorial endeavors for 1951 . . . except to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year —and plenty of shooting enjoyment in 1952!







Around Our House.....Too Much Temptati
POLICE STATION? YOU BETTER COME RIGHT OVER! SANTA BROUGHT PA A NEW REMINGTON 722-222 AND THEN DECIDED TO KEEP IT HIMSELF.
D'YA GIVE UP
OUCH! NO!
MERRY CHRISTMAS
HOERNLEIN

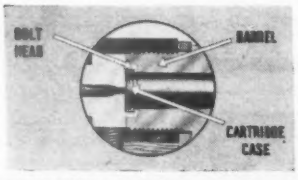
emington News

MERRY CHRISTMAS
and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

PORT, CO DECEMBER 1951

First Class Reading Matter for All Shooters

# ...l Christmas Gift ...Special Friend




**STRONGEST ACTION** ever developed! Cartridge case is completely enclosed by bolt head and barrel. An exclusive Remington feature for maximum safety and accuracy. The extractor is entirely contained in the bolt head—no extractor cuts in barrel. This new extraction principle gives 100% greater grip on cartridge than conventional extractors.

## ...mptat...222 Remington cartridge has ...errific speed, knockout power

...e's the cartridge that's writing a new chapter in varmint hunting. ...lls in the gap between the Bee-Zipper-Hornet class and the 220 ...ft . . . more speed and power than the first three, and a better ...minter than the 220 Swift.

...Muzzle velocity is 3,200 ft. per second—...ost three times as fast as the speed of ...nd. And 300 yards out, it's still going ...supersonic speed. The specially de...ed bullet maintains an exceedingly ...trajectory. Terrific speed gives maxi...m striking energy at all varmint hunt... ranges.

...Praised by gun edi... and thousands of ...er shooters, the 222 ...ington cartridge ...the Remington 722 ...e make an unbeat...e varmint-hunting ...bination.

## New Remington 722 rifle in 222 Remington caliber is varmint hunter's dream come true

"Finest varmint rifle ever built," say the experts. And small wonder. Shooters report one clean kill after another at 200 and 300 yds. But long-range striking power and accuracy are only two of the reasons why dyed-in-the-wool varmint shooters feel there's something special about the Model 722 in 222 Remington caliber.

It has a special adjustable trigger mechanism. When you squeeze, let-off is sharp and crisp, without creep or back-lash . . . a feature that pays off on long shots.

The bolt is special, too—*actually the strongest bolt action ever developed.* The cartridge head is completely encased in the steel wall of the bolt head (see photo at above left). There are no extractor cuts in the bolt head. Remington's new extraction principle gives more positive extraction...100 per cent greater grip on the cartridge than conventional extractors.

The stock is superbly balanced for fast handling. A streamlined natural pointer . . . with comfortable pistol grip which fits every shooter's hand. The rifle is easy to carry because of the smaller, well-rounded midsection.

And from deeply checkered butt plate to white beaded ramp front sight, the entire rifle is specially designed to feel right in your hands. It's light to carry—weighs about 7½ pounds. The high comb stock of polished American walnut is perfect for easy scope sighting: Low upturn of bolt permits low scope mounting. And the capacity is ample—five shots in magazine, one in chamber.

At Christmas time or any other time there are a lot of reasons why this gun is something special for any varmint shooter. But you'll have to get a Remington 722-222 in your own hands to really know what an amazing value it is. Your Remington dealer will be glad to show it to you. Make a point to drop in and see it . . . first chance you get.

"Improved my shooting 75%..."

From one of hundreds of letters received about the Fabulous BOONE!

The actual quotation below is from Ray E. Fowler, Whittingham, Vermont, who bought his Boone in February.

"...have made some wonderful scores with my Boone scope...like the way it mounts back out of the way of the loading and ejecting mechanism...quick off and on...very nice when traveling...find it perfectly satisfactory in every way...would recommend it for hunters who have failing vision. It has improved my shooting 75%."

The new Boone fills a need never before filled by any other gunscope. Its radically new optical principle is the result of years of engineering research by one of the nation's foremost makers of observatory telescopes. Order your Boone scope now from your dealer.

P.S. HAPPY HUNTING THIS SEASON WITH THE NEW BOONE GUNSCOPE!

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Remington Handguns
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Revised edition. The authors have been successful in securing additional material of great interest to those whose hobby is guns. Profusely illustrated, it is the authentic history of The Remington Handgun .....$5.00

Early American Gunsmiths
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This book on antique firearms is documented and illustrated. Covers the years 1650 to 1850 when gunsmithing reached its peak in quality of product. A collector's item .....$5.00

The Book Of The Springfield
By E. C. Crossman-R. F. Dunlap

Here's an entirely new edition of the one standard book on the Springfield. The new material supplementing the original (a high total of 580 pages) was published in the early 30's and has been prepared by Roy F. Dunlap, author of Gunsmithing. Illustrated $6.00

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Free with order 10 Life-like, Life-size, chucks or crows 18 in. high. Satisfaction GUARANTEED or money refunded.
SEND FOR YOURS NOW.
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NEW TRENTON TARGETS, P.O. Box 51, Cincinnati 8, O.

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552 Irvington Avenue., Maplewood, N. J.


(Continued from page 50)

been established (one for rifle and one for pistol). These will be postal team matches of four shooters per team, each team representing a senior or junior club. One club may enter more than one team. Entry may be made any time after February 1, and the fired targets must be returned to the NRA by May 1. Entry forms will be mailed each NRA club. The entry fee will be $5.00 per team for each match with awards for the top three teams.

All firing will be at 50 feet. The rifle match course of fire will be 10 shots prone, 10 shots sitting, and 10 shots standing for each team member with either metallic or telescopic sights. The pistol match will be fired with the .22 caliber pistol and the course of fire will be the regular three stages of 10 shots slow, 10 shots timed, and 10 shots rapid fire.

Remember—early entry will permit your teams more time to select the date you wish to fire the official match targets.

## 1952 REGIONAL PROGRAM

Twenty-four regional tournaments are scheduled for next year—eight smallbore, eight pistol, and eight high-power rifle. Letters have been mailed all NRA clubs asking for applications to sponsor 1952 regionals. These applications must be in the NRA Washington office by December 15.

Some changes in the plans for regional tournaments, recommended by the various competition committees, were approved by the Executive Committee in the recent San Francisco meetings:

1) All regionals will be open with no geographical boundaries,

2) A shooter may attend any regional he wishes but he may fire in only one regional high-power, one regional smallbore, and one regional pistol tournament during 1952,

3) NRA will provide all awards in each Regional Championship Aggregate including one trip for the champion to the national championships,

4) Regional sponsors will provide all additional awards,

5) NRA regional tournament registration fee will be $1.00 per day per competitor.

In 1952 both the Olympics and the International Shooting Union Championships will be held in Europe. The NRA wants to have teams entered and will do so if the funds can be raised to send them (see NRA International Shooting Fund article in this issue). Many shooters in past years have said they thought more international type shooting in the U. S. would lead to much more interest among all shooters in that sport and would also lead to even better and more experienced teams being sent abroad.

To help accomplish this, each regional sponsor in 1952 will be asked to schedule at least one international-type event. It will not be part of the regional championship aggregate, but a special match. Where necessary, the international-type event may be fired on the day preceding or a day subsequent to the regular regional aggregate matches. In other regionals, the special match may be scheduled on a few separate targets and be operated all day long, allowing competitors to fire whenever they are not busy with their regular shooting. Other regionals may operate the international

(Continued on page 56)

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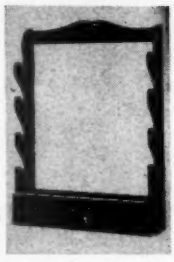

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*(Continued from page 54)*

events during the evening after completing the regular schedule. It is hoped many regionals will contribute all or part of these entry fees to the NRA International Shooting Fund. If such contribution is made, the NRA will furnish the match medals.

Club Officers, don't forget to mail the application to conduct a 1952 regional to the NRA before December 18. Every effort will be made to assign regional tournaments at a time and place which will suit the competitors and which will at the same time serve the greatest population of shooters.

## SUMMER LEAGUE WINNERS

The registered summer leagues have finished this seasons' firing by shooting for the State and National League Team Championships. National honors with the rifle go to the Annie Oakley Rifle Club, Greenville, Ohio, of the Western Ohio Rifle League, with the score of 1598-121X, with the Gasco Rifle Club, Mansfield, Ohio, of the North Central Ohio League placing second with the score 1597-125X.

The Capitol Pistol Club, Raymond Washington, of the Capitol Pistol League, won the National pistol trophy with a score of 1129 and in second place is the Cerro Gordo Rifle Club, Inc., Mason City, Iowa, of the Illowa Association Pistol League, with the score 1127.

Courses of fire used for rifle was the Dewar Course, any sights, and for pistol, the National Match Course. Four competitors fired on each team.

State championship winners are:

| | |
|---|---|
| **RIFLE** | |
| Florida | |
| Clearwater Rifle Club | 1594-104 |
| Illinois | |
| Wheaton Rifle Club | 1594-106 |
| Indiana | |
| Ligonier Rifle and Pistol Club | 1592-106 |
| Iowa | |
| Becker Chapman Post Rifle Club | 1595-127 |
| Massachusetts | |
| Westboro Rifle & Pistol Club | 1583-85 |
| Maryland | |
| Greenbelt Gun Club | 1596-115 |
| Michigan | |
| Paw Paw Conservation Club | 1573-69 |
| New York | |
| Highland Falls Rifle and Pistol Club | 1587-94 |
| Ohio | |
| Annie Oakley Rifle Club | 1598-121 |
| Pennsylvania | |
| Central Pennsylvania Rifle Club | 1589-95 |
| Texas | |
| Alibi Ikes Team (Dallas) | 1595-110 |
| West Virginia | |
| Mason-Dixon Club | 1571-76 |
| **PISTOL** | |
| Indiana | |
| Bendix Rifle & Pistol Club | 1052 |
| New York | |
| Empire Gun Club, Team #1 | 1053 |
| Washington | |
| Capitol Pistol Club, Red Team | 1129 |

## INDOOR LEAGUES

Complete information and entry blanks for the 1951-1952 NRA Registered Leagues have been mailed to all affiliated clubs, leagues, and associations. Entries are open until January 15, 1952 and may be made even though a league has started firing its match schedule.

A league may consist of teams representing separate clubs or a league may be formed within a single club. Three or more teams may organize a league. The course of fire and general league conditions are established by each individual league. A league may use a handicap or classification system.

The registration fee for the leagues is $5.00 per team. The NRA will furnish awards to the first and second place teams in each league.

Indoor league scores will again be used for NRA classification. At the end of the season the league secretary will furnish the NRA one final set of scores for each league member on forms which will be furnished him. Competitors in registered leagues will be classified according to this score report.

During the league season, shooters who have no classification from previous competition may post their league scores to the temporary score record book and in this manner be classified until the regular NRA classification is received.

Leagues furnish the opportunity for plenty of spirited competition during the winter season. The championship team in each league will be eligible to compete in the State and National League Finals which will be held next spring.

## OBSOLETE CLASSIFICATIONS

There are many names in the NRA classification files of shooters who have not fired in a registered tournament or league for several years. Such a condition could normally be expected to develop in a system which has been in effect for nearly five years.

In order that classification files might be cleared and maintained, the Executive Committee has approved an amendment to the competition rules which provides that Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman classifications will become obsolete on January 1 of each year if the shooter has not fired in registered competition during the three calendar years immediately preceding. This will not apply in the case of Master competitors whose classification will not become obsolete.

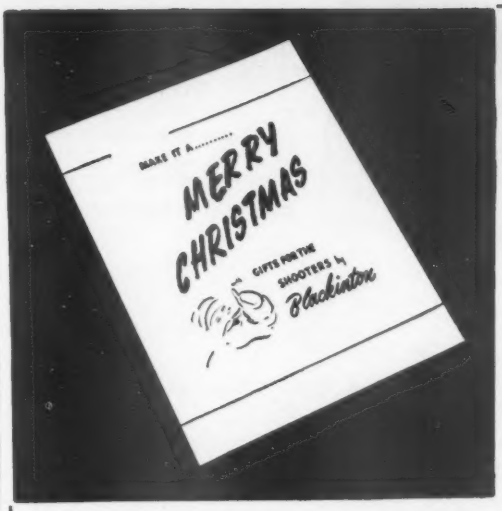
Competitors who lose their classification under this amendment and later start registered shooting will enter the first tournament as an Expert. They will then earn a new classification as provided for in the rules for unclassified shooters.

## DCM NOTES

Within the past few months the Ordnance Corps has published increased prices on various major items of equipment issued through the DCM to civilian rifle clubs and schools. Listed below are current reimbursable prices of those items.

This information is furnished for the benefit of clubs which may wish to carry insurance on various items of government property, or to increase their insurance to cover the value of the property at the current prices.

| ITEM | REIMBURSABLE PRICE |
|---|---|
| Caliber .30 rifles | |
| Springfield | |
| M1903 or M1903A1 | $30.00 each |
| M1903A3 | 50.00 each |
| Garand, M1 | 64.00 each |
| Caliber .22 rifles | |
| Springfield | |
| M1 | 58.71 each |
| M2 | 59.01 each |
| Commercial Models | |
| Remington 513T, Winchester 75, Stevens 416-2 | 36.45 each |
| Target Carriers, combination sliding | 62.31 each |
| Telephones, EE-8 | 46.20 each |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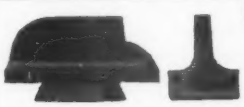

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| Used .351 Winchester Auto Rifles | 59.95 |
| Perfect .351 Winchester Auto Rifle | 129.95 |
| 19.95 Nydar Shotgun Sights | 9.95 |
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| Perfect English .375 H&H Magnum Rifle | 199.95 |
| Perfect Kessler 12, 16, 20-gauge, 3-Shot | 19.95 |
| Perfect Remington 721-.300 H&H | 89.95 |
| Perfect FN Mauser—all calibers | 119.95 |
| Perfect Remington 721-.270, 30/06 | 79.95 |
| Used Kessler .22 Air Rifles | 4.95 |
| New Hy Score .177 Repeating Air Pistol | 16.95 |
| Perfect Marlin 90.0 & U 12, 16, 20-Gauge | 69.95 |
| New Messberg 152K-.22 Auto | 24.95 |
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| New Colt 45 or 38 Super Auto | 65.00 |
| New S&W 32 Hand Ejector | 38.00 |
| New Messberg 16 Ga. Repeater | 27.95 |
| New Savage 410/22 Over-Under | 34.95 |
| New Savage 22 Pump Rifle | 34.95 |
| New Savage 22 Hornet Rifle | 39.95 |
| New 25 Auto Pistol | 29.95 |
| New 22 Auto Pistol | 25.95 |
| Perfect Blank Pistol—Em Gee | 7.50 |

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# Dope Bag

## answers by THE RIFLEMAN'S PANEL OF EXPERTS

Julian S. Hatcher • Phil Sharpe • Elmer Keith
Harold MacFarland • • Hugh C. Stith

### WARNING TO CUSTOM HANDLOADERS

Custom handloaders have been established as legally responsible for damage created by dangerous or defective ammunition they load and sell. Federal Court in Portland, Maine, was, early in October, the scene of a battle which fixed the legal responsibility of a custom handloader for damage created by a defective product.

In 1949 a Maine custom handloader sold some 7.7 Jap cartridges made with salvaged .30-'06 cases through a magazine advertisement to a former GI in New Mexico. The young veteran took his Model '99 Jap out for a session of target practice, according to testimony, and one of the cartridges blew. Fragments were imbedded in his face and forehead. At a hospital an emergency operation was performed, but the youth died there two weeks later.

Since the ammunition was sold in interstate traffic, the father of the dead veteran sued the ammunition maker through the Federal courts, asking $25,000.00 damages. He charged defective ammunition. The defense countered with the charge that the gun was defective. In the four-day court battle, evidence was submitted that the Jap rifles are unreliable, and an intelligent jury containing one gun dealer who had been in the business over 20 years listened intently to the claims and counter-claims.

The plaintiff charged, through technical experts, that the ammunition did not fit the rifle since most of the rear portion of the .30-'06 case is unsupported in the Jap 7.7 mm. chamber, and thus should never have been sold. The case went to trial October 3, 1951. The jury awarded $6,792.—PHIL SHARPE.

*In the Dope Bag for July 1947, Page 52, we called attention to the danger involved in using .30-'06 cartridges in rechambered 7 mm. Jap rifles or in making reloads for such rifles by cutting off and resizing .30-'06 cases. The reason as explained in that and other articles in the* RIFLEMAN *is that the Jap chamber is too big at the rear end to give proper support to the .30-'06 case. If our warning had been heeded then, an unfortunate accident would have been avoided.—Ed.*

### SPENCER PUMP SHOTGUN

Could you please tell me where I can find spare parts for a Model 1862 Spencer pump gun?—BLAIR ANDERSON, Gainsboro, Tenn.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** Your old Spencer is the first pump shotgun ever made, and the last Spencers were made about fifty years ago. There is no chance of your finding repair parts for it.

Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass., could make an extractor for it, but I would advise against your fixing that gun up for use. It is safe only with blackpowder, and could be highly dangerous with modern loads.

### IMR 4895 POWDER

Many reports are being received on the release of IMR 4895 through the DCM without loading data. The NRA has investigated this situation and has learned that the data is not available.

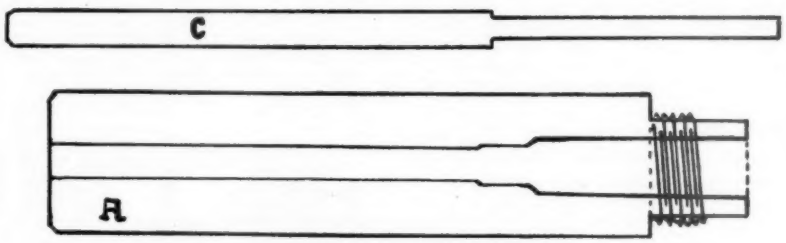
Smokeless powder is made and blended in lots of about 50,000 pounds simply because that is a full freight carload. IMR 4895 was produced to the tune of millions of pounds during the war—one plant alone turned out one million pounds daily. Thus it will be understood that the single-load test data for the various lots has long since been transferred to 'dead storage'. This does not matter to a loading company since they have velocity and pressure equipment for load development.

Records reveal that for the .30 Ball M2 cartridge with 153-grain bullet, the charge for the various lots ran from 48 to 52 grains. Thus if you take known data with any lot of 4895 and cut your charge 4 grains, you will be safe and can work up in ½-grain steps.

IMR 4895 was designed for use in the .30 caliber cartridge with ball, tracer, incendiary, and armor-piercing bullets. Since handloaders have had access to it, they have been using it in the .22 Hornet, .45-70, and everything between, including a host of wildcats. We even receive requests for loading information in very light charges with cast bullets. Information on loads for the many cartridges requested are not available. In development work you are on your own.

We know that this powder performs well in many cartridges, and for some unknown reason fails miserably in others. It is not 'like' any other powder. It is like 4895, period. If it was like 3031, it would have been labeled 3031. If it was like 4064, it would have been labeled 4064.

All remarks above apply only to powder sold through the DCM. We cannot comment on the usefulness of any salvaged powder.—PHIL SHARPE.




### HOW TO TACKLE BERDAN PRIMERS

Occasionally I see in the RIFLEMAN that American handloaders have trouble with Berdan primers, which are a little more difficult to remove than the usual American or Boxer primer.

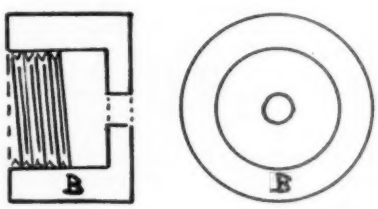
Here in Europe we seldom see primers other than the Berdan type. Consequently we have developed a hydraulic method of decapping, which is easier and more satisfactory than prying out fired primers with a nail.

"A", the rear end of an old barrel, is chambered for same cartridge you are reloading. Barrel is cut off to length of five or six inches, and rifling is reamed out till bore is smooth.

"B", an end cap is threaded to fit easily on barrel thread. Central hole is slightly larger than primer.

"C", a circular piston rod, is tight fit in bore of "A". Coating piston with thick grease makes more watertight seal.

Insert cartridge case in chamber of "A", screw on cap "B", fill case and bore of "A" with water, and insert piston "C" in bore of "A". A light tap with a wooden mallet on small end of "C" will force primer out of case and help to clean flash holes in web of case.




End cap "B" is then removed, and piston "C" reversed and used to force case from chamber.

Thin portion of "C" must be longer than inside length of case and thinner than inside diameter of case mouth to prevent damage to cartridge.

After removing decapped case, blow through it from rear to remove water from primer pocket and flash holes and speed drying of decapped case.—HOLGER RASMUSSEN, Copenhagen, Denmark.

## Col. Townsend Whelen

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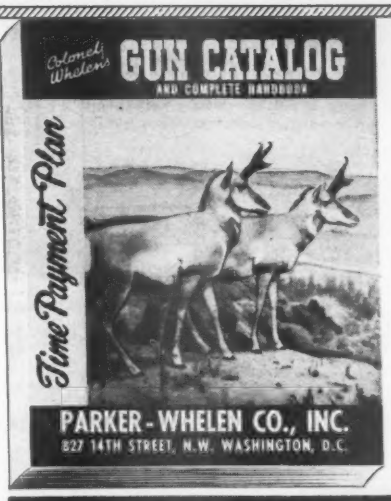


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### BIG GAME SCOPES

| | Down Payment | List Price |
|---|---|---|
| Stith Bear Cub, 4 Power Double | $22.00 | $ 85.00 |
| Stith Bear Cub, 4 Power Master | 14.00 | 55.00 |
| Stith Bear Cub, 2½ Power | 14.00 | 55.00 |
| Weaver K4, 4 Power | 11.50 | 45.00 |
| Weaver K2.5, 2½ Power | 9.50 | 37.50 |
| Weaver KV, 2½ to 5 Power | 14.50 | 57.50 |
| **Small Game & Varmint Scopes** | | |
| Weaver K6, 6 Power | 12.00 | 48.50 |
| Weaver K8, 8 Power | 15.00 | 59.50 |
| Weaver K10, 10 Power | 15.00 | 59.50 |
| Stith Bear Cub, 6 Power Double | 25.00 | 100.00 |
| Stith Bear Cub, 6 Power Master | 17.50 | 70.00 |
| Unertl Varmint Scope | 18.50 | 75.00 |
| **Target Scopes (Specify Power)** | | |
| Lyman Junior Targetspot | $17.50 | $ 69.50 |
| Lyman Senior Targetspot | 29.00 | 98.50 |
| Unertl, 1¼" Objective | 19.50 | 78.00 |
| Unertl, 1½" Objective | 22.50 | 90.00 |
| Fecker, 1¼" Objective | 18.50 | 75.00 |
| Fecker, 1⅝" Objective | 29.00 | 98.50 |
| Litchert Spot Shot | 14.00 | 55.00 |

### BINOCULARS
**(Prices Include Excise Tax)**

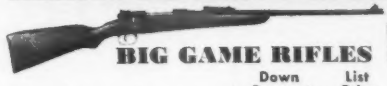
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bausch & Lomb, 6x30 & 7x35 | $46.50 | $186.00 |
| Bausch & Lomb, 8x30 & 9x35 | 51.00 | 204.00 |
| Bausch & Lomb, 7x50 | 52.50 | 210.00 |
| Imported Binocular, 7x35 | 18.00 | 71.40 |
| B. & L., 7x35 Monocular | 19.50 | 77.50 |
| Monette, 8x30 Monocular | 12.50 | 49.50 |

### .22 CAL. TARGET RIFLES

| BOLT ACTION: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remington M/37 without sights | $35.00 | $136.95 |
| Remington M/37 with sights | 37.50 | 150.60 |
| New Model 52 Winchester, Heavy Barrel, without sights | 28.00 | 111.80 |
| New Model 52 Winchester, Heavy Barrel, with Redfield sights | 37.00 | 147.55 |
| Winchester M/75 without sights | 12.00 | 48.45 |
| Win. M/75 with Redfield sights | 16.50 | 65.25 |
| Remington 513 TR with Redfield Receiver Sight | 16.50 | 65.25 |
| Remington 521 T Jr. Target Rifle | 10.50 | 42.70 |
| Mossberg 144 with sights | 8.00 | 31.95 |

### .22 AUTO. LOADING RIFLES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rem. 550-A, Tubular Mag. | $10.50 | $ 42.30 |
| Win. 63, Take-down Tubular | 18.00 | 73.35 |
| Stevens Model 87, Tubular Mag. Drilled & tapped for Scope | 8.50 | 34.65 |
| Mossberg 151-M, Tubular | 8.50 | 34.95 |



### BIG GAME RIFLES

| | Down Payment | List Price |
|---|---|---|
| Win. M/70 Bolt Action, Caliber .257; .270; .30-06 & .300 H&H | $32.00 | $126.50 |
| Rem. M/721 Bolt Action, Caliber .270 and .30-'06 | 23.00 | 92.35 |
| Rem. M/722 Bolt Action, Caliber .257 and .300 Savage | 22.00 | 86.55 |
| Savage M/340 Bolt Action, Cal. .30-30 CARBINE | 12.50 | 49.75 |
| Marlin M/336 CARBINE & Sporter-Carbine, Cal. .30-30 & .32 Spe. | 17.50 | 70.95 |
| Marlin M/336 Carbine .35 Rem. | 20.00 | 80.80 |
| Marlin M/336 Lever Action Rifle, Caliber .30-30 & .32 Special | 21.00 | 83.95 |
| Marlin M/336 Lever Action Rifle, Caliber .35 Remington | 24.00 | 94.45 |
| Savage M/99 EG Lever Action Rifle, Caliber .250-3000 & .300 Sav. | 28.00 | 111.50 |
| Savage M/99 RS Lever Action, High comb, Cal. .250-3000 & .300 Sav. | 32.00 | 127.00 |
| FN Mauser Bolt Action, Less Rear Sight, Cal. .270 & .30-06 | 35.00 | 137.50 |
| FN Mauser Bolt Action, same as above with Receiver Sight | 37.00 | 148.75 |
| Win. M/94 Carbine .30-30, .32 Sp. | 18.00 | 72.15 |

### Small Game & Varmint Rifles

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Win. M/70 Stand. grade, bolt, Cal. .22 Hornet & .220 Swift | 32.00 | 126.50 |
| Win. M/70 Super grade, bolt-action, Caliber .22 Hornet | 47.00 | 187.70 |
| Win. M/43 Stand. grade, bolt Cal. .22 Hornet & 218 Bee | 16.00 | 63.45 |
| Win. M/43 deLuxe grade, bolt, Cal. .22 Hornet & 218 Bee | 19.00 | 77.35 |
| Rem. M/722, bolt action, .222 | 22.00 | 86.55 |
| Sako, bolt, Short Mauser Action, .22 Hornet; .222 Rem & 218 Bee | 29.00 | 117.50 |
| Savage M/342, bolt, .22 Hornet | 12.50 | 49.75 |

### .22 CAL. SPORTING RIFLES

| BOLT ACTION: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remington 514 Single Shot | $ 4.00 | $ 16.10 |
| Remington 511-A, Clip Mag. | 7.00 | 27.65 |
| Remington 512-A, Tubular Mag. | 8.00 | 32.30 |
| Remington 513-S, Clip Mag. | 15.00 | 57.05 |
| Winchester 69, Clip Magazine | 7.00 | 27.65 |
| Winchester 72, Tubular Mag. | 8.00 | 32.30 |
| Stevens M-84, Clip Magazine | 6.00 | 24.25 |
| Stevens M-86, Tubular Mag. | 7.00 | 27.95 |
| Mossberg 42-M, Clip-type | 6.50 | 25.95 |
| Mossberg 146-B, Tubular Type | 7.00 | 28.95 |
| Mossberg 46-M, Tubular deluxe | 8.00 | 31.65 |
| Mossberg 142, Clip-type Carb. | 6.00 | 23.95 |
| **SLIDE ACTION:** | | |
| Winchester M/61, Hammerless | 14.50 | 57.70 |
| Win. M/62, Visible Hammer | 12.50 | 49.60 |
| Remington M/121, Hammerless | 14.50 | 57.70 |
| Savage M/29, Hammerless | 12.50 | 49.25 |

### SHOTGUNS
**(Specify Gauge, Barrel Length & Choke)**

| | Down Payment | List Price |
|---|---|---|
| **AUTO-LOADERS:** | | |
| Rem. Sportsman '48, 3-Shot | $29.00 | $115.45 |
| Rem. Model 11 '48, 5-Shot | 29.00 | 115.45 |
| Browning, Stand. Wt. Plain Brl. | 28.00 | 112.85 |
| Browning, Light Wt. Plain Brl. | 31.00 | 125.00 |
| Browning, Light Wt. Ribbed Brl. | 34.00 | 137.90 |
| Browning, Light Weight Vent Ribbed Barrel | 36.50 | 146.65 |
| **SLIDE ACTION—HAMMERLESS:** | | |
| Remington 870 AP Standard | $20.00 | $ 80.80 |
| Remington 870 ADL DeLuxe | 23.00 | 92.35 |
| Ithaca 37, Featherlight | 22.50 | 91.16 |
| Winchester Model 12, Standard | 29.50 | 98.15 |
| Winchester Mod. 12, Skeet, Rib | 33.00 | 132.75 |
| Noble Model 40, 12 Ga. only | 17.00 | 67.45 |
| **DOUBLE BARREL:** | | |
| Fox Model B | 19.00 | 77.00 |
| Stevens Mod. 530, Walnut Stock | 17.00 | 67.00 |
| Stevens Mod. 311, Walnut Finish | 16.00 | 62.95 |
| Winchester Model 24 | 20.00 | 80.65 |
| Winchester Model 21, Standard | 82.50 | 329.20 |
| **BOLT ACTION:** | | |
| Stevens M/258—Clip—20 Gauge | 7.00 | 27.75 |
| Stevens M/59—Tubular—410 Ga. | 7.50 | 30.00 |
| Mossberg 183-D—Clip—410 Ga. | 6.00 | 22.95 |
| Mossberg 185-D—Clip—20 Ga. | 6.50 | 25.95 |
| Mossberg 185-K — Clip — with c-lect choke, 20 Gauge | 7.50 | 29.95 |
| Mossberg 190—Clip—with c-lect choke, 16 Gauge | 8.00 | 31.95 |

### HANDGUNS
**(Send Permit If Required)**

| .22 CALIBER AUTOMATICS: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Colt Match Target Woodsman | $21.50 | $ 85.00 |
| Colt Target Woodsman | 17.50 | 70.00 |
| Colt Sport Woodsman | 17.50 | 70.00 |
| Colt Challenger | 13.00 | 52.50 |
| High Standard Sport King | 11.00 | 44.00 |
| High Standard Field King | 15.00 | 59.00 |
| **.22 & .38 CAL. REVOLVERS:** | | |
| Colt Officers Model | $18.50 | $ 75.00 |
| Smith & Wesson Masterpiece | 18.00 | 71.50 |
| S & W Combat Masterpiece | 18.00 | 71.50 |
| Colt Official Police | 16.50 | 65.00 |
| **.38 & .45 CAL. AUTOMATICS:** | | |
| Colt Super .38 | $16.50 | $ 65.00 |
| Colt .45 Government | 16.50 | 65.00 |
| Colt Commander .38 | 16.50 | 65.00 |
| Colt Commander .45 | 16.50 | 65.00 |
| Colt Commander 9 mm | 16.50 | 65.00 |

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*By Monty Kennedy*

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There are some 75 actual checkering patterns given—each in full size, with basic lines located—all ready to be used as a template of sorts for transfer to your own gunstock. Notes and comment as to its application by the beginner accompany each pattern—with a number of patterns shown that the amateur had better shy away from for a spell.

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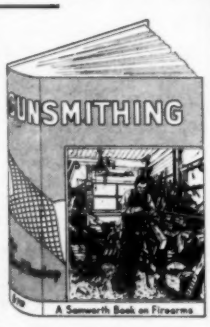


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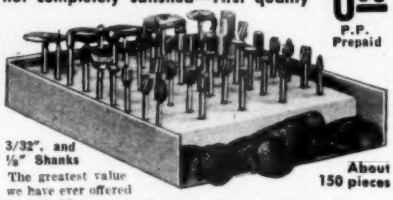

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## '4350 DATA' POWDER

The powder being offered for sale as '4350 Data' powder is a good and safe powder to use, producing excellent accuracy in many calibers. However it is not 4350, nor is it anything like 4350. It is as different as 4350 is different from 3031.

According to Hodgdon, Merriam, Kansas, who sells the powder as '4350 Data' powder, this powder is salvaged from miscellaneous condemned lots of 20 mm. Navy Oerlikon ammunition, and he claims that it is IMR 4831. This powder contains potassium salts, added as a flash reducer. This leaves a fouling in the bore which calls for cleaning the day the gun is used; otherwise the fouling becomes brittle and will cause your next fouling shot to be a flier.

This powder is being sold in large quantities to dealers, and some dealers are selling it as a bulk lot of 4350. Load for load, it produces lower pressures, and on the writer's tests, shows lower velocities, running from 150 to over 300 feet per second less than cannister 4350. However, it does shoot very fine groups, and in many cases gives superior accuracy.

Unfortunately we can give you no loading data on '4350 Data' powder, since each batch sold is a blend or mixture of a variety of lots.

For your own safety, label your containers 'IMR 4831'. And never develop loading data with this powder and then try to use the same load with cannister 4350. You can wreck your gun. In 4831, you have a much slower burning powder than 4350, thus lower pressure. With common sense you can develop good, safe loads—but in the interests of safety, speak of your loads as 4831 loads. Do not use the term 4350 Data—someone might try them with the cannister powder of that name.—PHIL SHARPE.

## WINCHESTER MODEL 1901 SHOTGUN

On page 63 of the "Dope Bag" in the June issue of the RIFLEMAN, it is recommended that loads of more than 1¼ ounces not be fired in the Winchester Model 1901 lever-action 10-gauge shotgun.

A letter from Olin Industries, Inc., in reply to the query of one of our readers on this subject states, "You may be assured that the gun (Winchester Model 1901 lever-action 10-gauge shotgun) is perfectly safe, if in good condition, with the 1⅝-ounce load. . . . The Ballistic Laboratory has done all the regular testing of 2⅞-inch, 10-gauge, 1⅝-ounce loads in three M/1901 shotguns. These guns are still performing satisfactorily after years of shooting."

## DOMINION PRIMERS

Is there any objection to using No. 1 Dominion primers (manufactured by Canadian Industries Limited) in reloading the .38 Smith & Wesson Special cartridge?—EDWARD C. MAY, Alberta, Canada.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** I do not know how well the Dominion No. 1 primer will work in the .38 Special. This is a mild primer intended for the .25 auto, .32 auto, and .32 S&W calibers. The No. 1 should properly ignite Bullseye, but only a trial will indicate whether it will work with other pistol powders.

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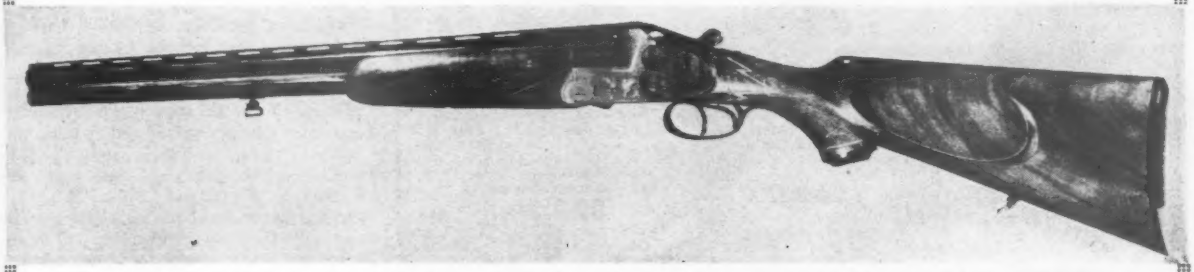
# FERLACH Over-Under & Double-Barrel Shotguns

## *"Forever Yours"* MODEL OVER-UNDER SHOTGUN



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**Cheek piece stock, fine grained walnut standard dimensions snugly fitted fore-arm hugs the barrel and separates easily for quick take down. Both stock and forearm are finely checkered.**

***"Forever Yours"*** **has racy proportions, is perfectly balanced for fast handling in the field, at skeet or trap. Available at once in 12, 16 and 20 Ga. Weight 12 Ga. approx. 7 lbs., 16 Ga. 6¾, 20 Ga. 6½. Price $369.00.**

***"Forever Yours"*** **is an Over-Under every discriminating Sportsman will want to own. Made to last a lifetime . . . Truly . . . FOREVER YOURS.**

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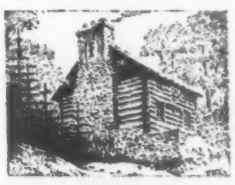

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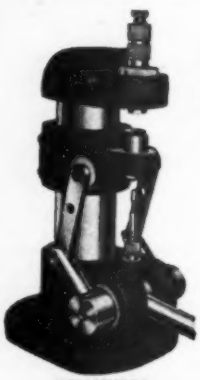

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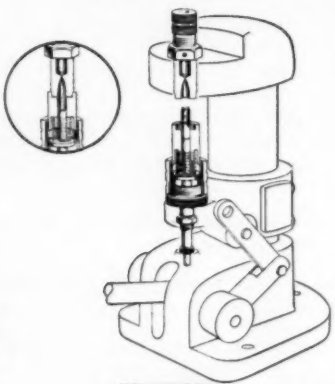

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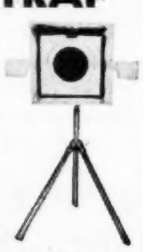

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## SINGLE ACTION ARMY

As of late, I have become greatly interested in the Colt Single-Action Frontier revolvers. The more I read about them the more I become confused. Here are a list of questions I would like answered: 1) How do the serial numbers run as to hardness of the steel, case hardening and the like? 2) Can you outline a brief history of the gun? 3) Outline as to the caliber and barrel lengths? 4) Name and address of a good reliable dealer of such guns? 5) My main interest is in the caliber .45, can you suggest any good loads and shot loads for snakes and the like?—GEORGE A. QUESADA, Tallahassee, Fla.

**Answer by Elmer Keith:** All factory single action army revolvers were case hardened frames when they left the factory, as far as I know, except the flat top target model which was full blued. The gun was originally the standard Cavalry gun in 7½-inch length barrel and the .45 caliber and Artillery side arms in 5¼-inch barrel, and all three lengths, including the 4¾-inch, were sold to civilians.

It was made in about all calibers and I have seen them in .22 rimfire, .32 center fire (not the W. C. F.), .32-20, 38 long .44 Colt, .44 Special and Smith & Wesson Russian, .45 Colt, .455 British, .38-40, and .44-40.

The .45 Colt is a good choice. Use the Keith Ideal 250-grain bullet molds from Lyman and 18 to 20 grains 2400 for a top load and for a more normal load use 6.5 grains Bullseye and for an in-between load 10 grain Unique gives 1000 feet. Five grains Bullseye makes a good light load.

Load the case about one-third full of blackpowder size F.F.F.G. and a heavy card wad, then all the fine shot No. 7½ to 9 you can get in and another wad on top and a heavy crimp to hold in place, then drip melted tallow on the top wad to seal the load against moisture for close range at snakes, but I think I would prefer slugs and have killed many a rattler.

There are several dealers advertising in back of the RIFLEMAN who should be able to supply you with a good gun.

## RELOADING FOR STEVENS FAVORITE

I have a Stevens lever-action single-shot rifle, Model 1915, which was chambered for the .32 Long rimfire. I have relocated the firing pin and reamed the chamber to take the .32 S&W Long revolver cartridge. I have the Ideal mold No. 313445 for the 93-grain wadcutter bullet. What would you advise as the maximum safe load with this bullet, using measured charges? I'd like to get at least 1500 feet per second. The rifle has the swinging breechblock and is in good condition.—MARTIN E. ALGER, Mackinaw City, Mich.

**Answer by Elmer Keith:** I would not advise trying for any such velocity as 1500 feet in that old Stevens "Favorite" as it was never intended for such pressures in .32 caliber.

I would use pistol primers and stick to pistol pressures in that rifle. A charge of 2.7 grains Bullseye is heavy enough for that action, and the heaviest I would use would be 4.3 Hercules Unique that gives 1010 feet in the pistol and should give a bit higher velocity in the rifle.

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## HANDLOAD FOR 220

I have a .220 barrel in an old Springfield action, serial number 383120. Can you tell me what loads with 50- to 55-grain bullets would be safe?—WILLIAM CROWLEY, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** A load I always liked with the 50-grain bullet is 37 grains of 4064. This gives a velocity of 3600, and while I do not know the pressure, it should be safe since duPont also recommended up to 40.6 grains. You can use the same charge behind the 55-grain with safety, and will get about 3550 feet per second.

## VELOCITY AT 78 FEET

One of our instructors stated that the M1 rifle ball came to maximum velocity 78 feet from the rifle muzzle. How about this? Why?—PFC. CHARLES O. HUNT, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** The M1 rifle bullet and all other bullets, achieve their maximum velocity at the muzzle of the gun. The powder gas pushes it faster and faster until it gets into the air. The air starts pushing back on the front end, so it starts to slow down.

Where your instructor gathered the idea that the bullets hits maximum speed at 78 feet, I cannot say, except that most velocity reports are 'Instrumental at 78 feet.' This is the actual speed taken at 78 feet. To measure a bullet speed, you time it with special instruments. In the old days, this time was measured over a distance of 150 feet by permitting the bullet to trip electrical triggers to start and stop the timing. The time is then translated into velocity at midway, or 75 feet. However, the first trigger circuit is located three feet from the muzzle to prevent accidental discharge of air from the barrel pushed out by the bullet from giving a false reading. Thus to 75 feet you add three feet to get that mystic 78 feet. Modern electronic testers use photoelectric screens for this, the screens being 100 feet apart to give an average speed over 50 feet. However, to avoid mixing up records and permit comparison, the first screen is located 28 feet from the muzzle, thus retaining the 78-foot velocity.

Accepted military ballistic practice for the M1 bullet is to add 60 feet per second to the 78-foot instrumental to get the estimated muzzle velocity.


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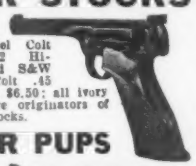

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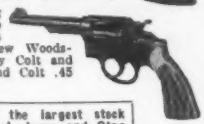

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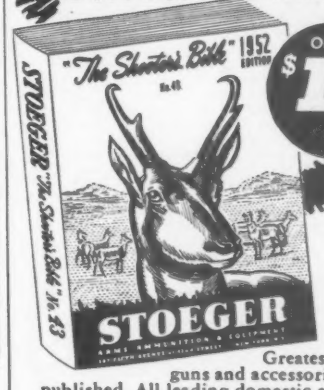


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| 6.5x57 Rim for 3 barrel guns | Box (20) 6.00 |
| 7x64 Brennecke 139 grain Soft Nose | Box (20) 6.00 |
| 8 m/m Jap Nambu Pistol M.P. | Box (50) 8.00 |
| 8x57 J.R. Rim for 3 barrel guns S.P. | Box (20) 4.90 |
| 8x60 R.S. Rim Magnum Soft Nose | Box (20) 4.90 |
| 8x72/360 Rim for 3 barrel gun S.P. | Box (20) 6.00 |
| 9.3x74 Rim for 3 barrel guns S.P. | Box (20) 5.40 |
| 9.5 m/m Mann. Schoenauer S.P. or H.P. | Box (20) 6.00 |

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| Model 70 Standard, 22 Hornet, 220 Swift, 257 Roberts, 270 Win., 30/06 Gov't, 300 H&H Magnum, 375 H&H Magnum | $126.50 |
| Model 70 'Super Grade' calibers as above | 187.70 |
| Model 12 Duck Gun, 12 ga. Magnum for 3" shells, plain barrel $109.65. With rib | 127.00 |
| Remington Mod. 721A, 270 or 30/06 Gov't. | 92.35 |
| Remington Mod. 722A, 222, 257 Roberts, 300 Savage | 86.55 |
| Remington Automatic, 12, 16, 20 gauge #48 | 115.45 |
| Remington #870 'Wingmaster' Pump, 12 or 16 ga. | 80.80 |

## COLT - S & W - RUGER - H.S.

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| Colt 'Cobra' 38 Sp. or 32 Long, 2" bbl. only 15 oz. | $68.50 |
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| Colt 'Challenger' 22 Auto., 4½ or 6" barrel | 52.50 |
| S&W "Chiefs' Special" .38 Spec. 2" blue | 60.00 |
| S&W 'Masterpiece' K22 or K38 Target, 6" bbl. | 71.50 |
| S&W 'Combat' K22, K38 Spec Target, 4" barrel | 71.50 |
| S&W Military & Police, 38 Spec., 2, 4, 5, 6" bbl. | 62.00 |
| Ruger 22 Auto., 4½" barrel, 9 shot, 37 oz. | 37.50 |
| High Standard 'Sport King' 22 Auto., 4½" or 6¾" | 44.00 |

## SPRINGFIELD PARTS

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| Magazine Spring .75¢. Extractor | $1.50 |
| Ejector $1.00. Cartridge Clips, dozen | 1.00 |
| Safety complete $1.00. Follower (milled) | 1.50 |
| Sear $1.00. Firing Pin Striker | 1.00 |
| Oiler, Thong and Brush | .60 |
| Ammo M2—150gr., G.I., Per 100 | 7.50 |

## U.S. ENFIELD PARTS

.30/06 caliber Government BOLTS. Complete Assembly, $5.00 ea., (Two for $9.00), also stripped, but with extractor collar, $2.50 ea., (two for $4.00).

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| Enfield Magazine Depressor 15¢. Butt Plates | $ .60 |
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## M1-30 CARBINE PARTS

Stock Assembly $3.75; Hand Guard $2.50; Bolt Assembly $3.95; Barrels stripped with piston & nut $7.00; Magazines $1.85; Piston and Nut $1.25; Trigger and Pin $1.50; Safety 75¢; Latest adjustable rear sight $1.85; Sling with oiler $1.50; Head space gages, $1.50 pair.

## 8 m/m "MAUSER MODEL 98" $14.00

Per 100 Imported Czech cartridges with 196 grain or 239 grain Soft Nose big game hunting bullet. This is factory ammunition, no reloads. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $110.00. Can furnish 5-shot cartridge clips, 50¢ each.

## 6.5 m/m MANNLICHER $20.00

Per 100 Imported Czech cartridges with 154 grain Soft Nose hunting bullet. This is factory ammo, not reloads. For use only in genuine Mannlicher-Schoenauer rifles 6.5 x 54 m/m. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $165.00.

## 303 BRITISH $7.50

Per 100 cartridges Winchester make ammunition, with 174 grain Metal Point copper coated bullet. All factory loaded. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $65.00. ALSO have some with 150 grain Soft Nose hunting bullet replacing the G.I. bullet at $15.00 per 100.

## 8 m/m FRENCH LEBEL $12.00

Per 100 cartridges for Model 16 rifles and carbines. Factory loaded in Europe with G.I. bullet. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $90.00. Also have American made hunting loads at $4.20 per box of 20, cartridges, 3 shot cartridge clips $1.25 each.

## 9 m/m LUGER $7.95

Per hundred cartridges. Will also fit P38 Walther, Polish Radom, Model 35, F & N Browning, Lahti and many other. Imported European factory loads. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $69.00. Have many Luger parts, please advise wants as we do not have a list.

## 8m/m 7.92m/m "KURZ" (short) $12.00

Per 100 cartridges, 8 m/m Mauser short cartridge used in the German Volkstrum (Peoples Shooter) "Burp Gun" and sold only for Police or Military use. Can also be furnished packed in 5 shot clips at $15.00 per 100 cartridges. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $65.00.

## 7.5 m/m FRENCH MLE 1936 $12.00

Per 100 cartridges made in France. Factory loaded with 160 grain Metal Point bullet. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand with GI bullet, $85.00. Some with 150 grain Soft Nose hunting bullet replacing the G.I. bullet at $18.00 per hundred; 5 shot cartridge clips 50¢ each.

## 7.65 m/m BELGIAN MAUSER $12.00

Per hundred cartridges. Made in Belgium, factory loaded with Round or Pointed Metal Jacket bullet. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $85.00.

ALSO have some with 150 grain Soft Nose hunting bullet replacing the G.I. bullet at $21.00 per hundred.

## 30-06 SPRINGFIELD $7.50

Per hundred cartridges M2 with 150 grain G.I. bullet. All factory loaded, can be used in any make 30-06 cal. rifle. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $65.00. Cartridge clips 5 shot, dozen $1.00. Garand 8 shot clips, $2.00 dozen.

## 45/70 SPRINGFIELD $7.50

Per 100 cartridges. Made by U.M.C. with 500 grain lead bullet and smokeless powder. All factory loaded. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand, $70.00.

## 30 Cal. M1 CARBINE $7.50

Per 100 cartridges all factory loaded with 112 grain full Metal Jacket bullet. EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE per thousand $65.00.

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### REBEDDING WARPED STOCK

I have a new Remington 513T and I don't think that it is bedded right, for it won't hold its zero and I have to keep adding left windage. I can put a piece of paper between the stock and barrel on the left side of the barrel but can't even start a piece of paper on the right side of the barrel. How can I correct this condition? —CARL BOWER, Detroit, Michigan.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** What you have is a case of stock warpage. This is rather common when the wood hasn't been sawed right, or when it has been poorly seasoned before making into a stock. And sometimes it will occur when everything seems as it should be, just out of plain cussedness.

The cure is this: remove the stock and coat the barrel with most any sort of spotting color. You can use bearing blue, hektograph ink, or a mixture of lamp black and oil. Then replace the stock on the gun and tighten it into place. Now remove it again, and with a sharp chisel shave away all the wood that is bearing against the forward portion of that barrel. Repeat the process several times to make sure the one sided contact is gone.

Now take shims made of tough brown paper (Kraft), a half inch wide, and lay them one on top of the other until you have a thickness that will bear against the barrel with a definite but not too heavy contact. These shims should be placed in the barrel channel of the forearm, near the tip, and should be thick enough so that when the stock screw is tightened, it requires a pressure of five to eight pounds to spring the forearm and barrel apart.

It would be wise to apply a little more of the spotting color to the barrel at this time and try it on the shims. The barrel should bear evenly on the shims on both sides of the channel. If it doesn't, glue paper shims on one side until it does.

Unless you have an even two-sided bearing between the wood and the barrel, that barrel will spring increasingly to one side as it warms from firing.

### CAP AND BALL NAVY COLT

I have a .36 caliber 1851 Navy Colt cap and ball revolver. How can I remove stubborn nipples from the cylinder? If I have to heat it, do I have to retemper it? If so, how should I go about it? Also, where can I get a new cylinder?—ROBERT HELBIG, Belmar, New Jersey.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** I wouldn't use excessive heat on the cylinder of that old colt. You might ruin it. The method of the old timers was to soak the cylinder overnight in kerosene. Then warm the section around the nipples with a gasoline blowtorch until the oil bubbled out around the nipple. Tap the nipple briskly with a hammer or punch to break the rust loose. Then turn it out. Modern penetrating oil used the same way should work better.

You can get many of the parts for this gun from N. F. Strebe, 5215 R Street, S.E., Washington 19, D. C. He doesn't list any cylinders though. About the only other possibility is Francis Bannerman Sons, 501 Broadway, New York, New York.

## COMMERCIAL HANDLOADING

Is it necessary to obtain a government license or permit before loading cartridge for profit?—EVERETT L. GENTRY, San Luis Obispo, Calif.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** If you load ammunition from cases supplied by the customer, you will need a Federal Firearms Dealer's license. If you supply cases and make complete ammunition for sale, you must get a Manufacturer's license, which costs $25.00 per year. You are required to establish and maintain a complete accounting record of the business, to collect and pay Federal excise tax, and I believe the State of California would require collection and payment of sales tax.

## SHARPS-BORCHARDT

I have a Sharps .45-70 caliber Borchardt patent, hammerless rifle in perfect shape. The action and barrel are as new. Can I have this rebarreled to .219 Zipper or to .218 Bee? Will this action stand up under these loads with safety? Whom can I get to install the new barrel and bush the firing pin hole, also reblue the action?—WALTER H. OWENS, Columbus, Ohio.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** This is probably the finest of the old single shots, and it will stand any reasonable load.

For the barrel and breech block work, I'd suggest John Gregoire, Chester, Conn.: J. E. Gebby, 298 Springbrook Blvd., Dayton, Ohio; or Vernor Gipson, Box 156, Salem, Ind.

## CLEANING COATED OPTICS

I am enclosing a package of 'sight savers' (silicone treated lens tissues). What would be their effect on scope lenses (coated and uncoated) shooting glasses, etc.?

If harmful in any way I believe a warning in the RIFLEMAN would be in order.—JOHN R. SEAHOLTS, Willard, Ohio.

**Answer by General Hatcher:** We have been using those silicone treated lens tissues for some time ourselves, and never saw any reason why they should be in the least harmful to fine optics.

However, to be on the safe side we wrote to Bausch & Lomb Optical Company about this and they have replied as follows:

"The 'sight savers' which you spoke of will not cause any harm to hard coated optics. They may leave a slight film which is not visually apparent, but which does not injure the coating in any way."

## .303 SAVAGE FOR DEER

What is your opinion of the .303 Savage for whitetails in the Maine woods. How does it stack up with the .30-30? Can it be rebarreled to .300 Savage? What range should it be sighted in for?—SHERMAN F. BAIRD, North Haven, Me.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** There are three cartridges which in general appearance, power and performance are about identical, the .30-30, .32 Winchester Special and .303 Savage. Of the three, only the .30-30 has retained any popularity, and Savage has long since discontinued the manufacture of the .303. I do not consider any of these calibers adequate for whitetail deer hunting.

From my own experience, I'd say to sight that rifle in to shoot to point of aim at 75 measured yards.





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| IDEAL #310 Tong Tool (all calibers in stock) | 11.50 |
| IDEAL LUBRICATOR AND SIZER | 14.50 |
| IDEAL LUBRICATOR DIE SET GH&I | 4.00 |
| IDEAL FULL LENGTH SIZING DIE | 3.00 |
| IDEAL BULLET MOLDS | 7.50 |
| Blocks $4.50; Lubricant 40¢; Ladle | .75 |
| Lead Pot $1.25. IDEAL SHOT SHELL LOADING OUTFIT (with shot measure) | 29.50 |

### WILSON TOOLS

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| CASE TRIMMER | $12.00 |
| SHELLHOLDERS: Rifle Shell Holder | 1.25 |
| Hardened Pistol Shell Holder | 2.25 |
| BURRING TOOL | 2.00 |
| CASE GAUGES 30/06, 270, 220, 257 | 4.50 |
| PRIMER POCKET REAMER | 4.50 |
| Punch and Base Set. Remove those crimped primers! | 2.00 |
| INSIDE NECK REAMERS 22, 220, 25, 270, or 30/06 | 5.50 |

### LOADING TOOL ACCESSORIES

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| BELDING & MULL Loading Blocks, 50 Hole. Specify cal. | 1.00 |
| VICKERMAN BULLET SEATERS | 7.75 |
| BOYCE ADAPTERS (use Lyman Dies in Hollywood and Pacific tools) | 3.40 |
| HOLLYWOOD and C-H PRECISION, chrome plated Die Sets | 12.50 |
| HOLLYWOOD Shell Holder $3.00; Primer Rod | 3.00 |
| IPCO Colloidal Graphite Lubricant Stick | .50 |
| IPCO Colloidal Graphite Grease Wads, .033", .040" - .064" per box | 1.00 |
| 30 NEWTON NEW CASES, box of 20 (empty—not primed: can be shipped parcel post) | 2.95 |
| New Primed Cases, 300 Savage, $9.50 per C | |

### POWDER MEASURES

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| HOLLYWOOD MICROMETER | $19.50 |
| BELDING & MULL VISIBLE | 12.50 |
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| PACIFIC POWDER MEASURE (Revolver and Pistol only) | 7.95 |
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### POWDER SCALES

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| REDDING POWDER SCALE (Postage Paid) | $11.95 |
| PACIFIC POWDER SCALES | 8.95 |
| Extra set PACIFIC weights | 2.75 |

### ABC BULLETS

| | |
|---|---|
| 25 cal. 87 gr. $3.50. 100 gr. $3.75. 120 gr. | $4.00 |
| 270 cal. 100 gr. $4.25. 130 gr. | 4.50 |
| 30 cal. 125 gr. $4.25. 150 gr. $4.50. 180 gr. | 4.75 |
| 30 cal. 180 gr. Spitzer Boattail Match. (full metal jacket | 5.50 |
| 311 cal. 150 gr. spitzer | 4.50 |

### HORNADY BULLETS

| | Per 100 |
|---|---|
| 224 cal.: 45 gr. Hornet Spire SP | $2.50 |
| 50 and 55 gr. spire SP HV | 2.75 |
| 2225 cal.: 50 gr. spire SP HV | 2.75 |
| 257 cal.: 100 gr. Spire Point HV | 4.00 |
| 270 cal.: 130 gr. Spire Point | 4.50 |
| 30 cal.: 150 gr. Round nose cannelured | 4.50 |
| 150 gr. Spire SP | 4.50 |

### SIERRA BULLETS

| | Per 100 |
|---|---|
| 224 cal.: 45 gr. semi-ptd. SP HV | $2.75 |
| 50 gr. spitzer SP HV | 2.75 |
| 55 gr. spitzer SP HV | 2.75 |
| 257 cal.: 87 gr. HV spitzer | 3.75 |
| 100 gr. spitzer SP HV | 3.75 |
| 270 cal.: 110 gr. Spitzer SP HV | 4.25 |
| 130 gr. Spitzer SP HV | 4.50 |
| 30 cal.: 125 gr. spitzer SP | 4.25 |
| 150 gr. spitzer SP | 4.50 |

### SPEER BULLETS

| | Per 100 |
|---|---|
| 25 cal.: 60 gr.—$3.25; 87 gr. | $3.75 |
| 100 gr. | 4.00 |
| 6.5 mm. 87 gr. spitzer | 3.75 |
| 270 cal.: 100 gr. spitzer SP—$4.25; 150 gr. spitzer SP | 4.75 |
| 7 mm: 160 gr. | 4.75 |
| 30 cal.: | |
| 150 gr. Rd. nose SP, not cannelured | 4.50 |
| 150 gr. flat nose SP, cannelured | 4.50 |
| 150 gr. spitzer SP not cannelured | 4.50 |
| 180 gr. spitzer SP not cannelured | 4.75 |
| 180 gr. Rd. nose | 4.75 |
| 200 gr. spitzer SP or Rd. nose | 4.50 |
| 311 cal.: 150 gr. spitzer | 4.50 |
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| 8 mm: 150 gr. spitzer SP .323" | 4.50 |
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### REBARRELING MAUSER ACTION

Is it possible for me to have a Winchester Model 70 barrel put in a 98 or Mauser action?—M. J. Duke, Brooklyn, N. Y.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** You don't specify the caliber of your Model 70 barrel. If it is a .300 or .375 Magnum, I'd say you can't put it in a Mauser action. If it is smaller like a .30-'06, .270 or .257, I'd say yes—a gunsmith can do it.

### SCOPE ADVICE

Would you please recommend a telescope and mount for a Springfield which would be suitable for hunting, either in the mountains of California or in northern Minnesota? I want to be able to use the iron sights without too much trouble.—J. E. Ellison, Ames, Iowa.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** The 2½X is the scope for the north country. You want to be able to easily remove the scope for iron sight use, so I would recommend a Pachmayr Lo-Swing or Buehler mount. For western hunting, I prefer to anchor the scope solid in something like a Stith Streamline mount. A 4X scope is useable in the West but I just don't want one for Minnesota where ranges are usually short and targets are fast-moving.

### .45-70 INFORMATION

I just acquired a U. S. Springfield .45-70 Model 1884. It is in fine condition and has never been fired. I would like to know if the 1884 Model is called a 'trapdoor' Springfield. Also about what pressures can I safely develop in reloading for this model? Can I use a jacketed bullet?—Jack L. Faul, North Hollywood, California.

**Answer by Elmer Keith:** Yes, the Models 1873 through 1884 are all the trapdoor Springfield, and all are suitable only for pressures of 25,000 pounds or less for safety. You can shoot the factory .45-70-405-grain smokeless load in them safely, but the metal jacketed bullet will wear the bore in time. In reloading stick to loads under 25,000 pounds, and I prefer to recommend 70 grains F. G. black for these rifles and cast lead bullets one to sixteen tin and lead in either 405- or 500-grain weights.

Al Barr had a most excellent article on loads for the .45-70 on page 32 of the November 1950 Rifleman.

### .25 KRAG

I have a fine old Krag rifle with sporter stock. However, I have no particular use for this gun, so have been thinking of having it converted to a .25 Krag. What is your opinion, would this work out OK, would you suggest some other caliber, or should I just hang the darn old thing up on the wall for a keepsake?—Gordon Black, Seward, Alaska.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** If you are extremely careful on the handloading, you can just about duplicate the ballistics of a .250 Savage. One little slip on calculating a powder charge and you'll shove the pressure over the 43,000-pound danger limit and shear the single lug off that bolt.

From a practical standpoint, it would cost you little to buy a Springfield, Enfield, or Mauser action. The rebarreling cost to any reasonable varmint caliber would be the same as for the Krag, and you would have a rifle many times as good.

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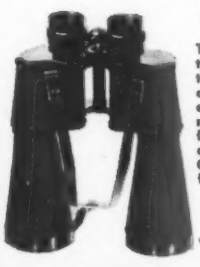

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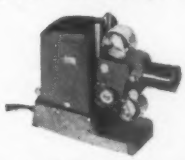

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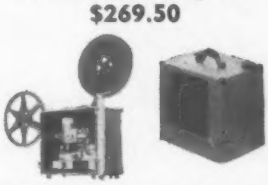

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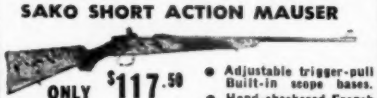

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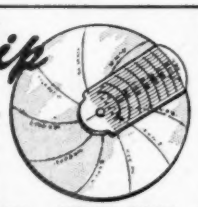

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## THE LEBEL RIFLE

I own a French Lebel rifle marked Remington Model 1907-15 which shoots the 170-grain Remington 8 mm. bullet. What is wrong with this type of rifle?—FRANK J. POMMERT, Detroit 22, Mich.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** That Remington made French 8 mm. rifle is safe, accurate, and it has ample power for any hunting in this country. Those are the good points. Here are the bad ones: it's a rough, ugly, clumsy weapon at best, and there is little you can do about it. You can cut back that 31-inch barrel, turn the bolt handle down, and make a new stock, and it's still ugly. It is possible to get repair parts from dealers in imported gun parts, but they are very difficult to come by. You can't mount a conventional peep sight or scope mount on it since the bolt handle turns down forward of the receiver bridge. The magazine is made in such a way that you can't convert it to an American caliber. Nothing else will feed in it. You can get the ammo, made in this country, but few stores carry it. You can't use the magazine without a special clip. Those clips are very, very hard to get. They are expensive; and as soon as you fire those three shells, that clip falls out the bottom and you lose it. In addition, the gun has no safety.

## LUGER LOADS

What handloads for the 9 mm. Luger using a jacket soft point bullet will "open"?

What powder charge do you recommend with the 116-grain Norma bullet for the Luger?

What do you think of the Luger pistol and what is the average barrel life using jacketed bullets?—JAMES R. ABACK, Marlboro, Mass.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** Frankly, you are going to be disappointed if you think you can make a jacketed soft point bullet "open" in the 9 mm. Luger. It just cannot be given sufficient velocity. Years ago all of the ammunition makers loaded the soft points and hollow points—none worked.

You can load up to 6 grains of Pistol 6 powder behind that 116-grain Norma bullet, and up to 4.5 grains of Bullseye.

I do not know the life of a Luger barrel. With normal jacketed bullets it should last from 2,000 to 3,000 rounds, perhaps more.

I regret that I cannot share your high regard for the Luger. I have them, and have used them since World War I, and while they 'feel good,' the mechanics of design leave a lot to be desired. One word of warning. Never dry fire a Luger. That delicate scar on the rear of the firing pin will crystalize and break off. You should see a German Ordnance Repair Chest of Luger parts as used in the recent war. The biggest single replacement item was firing pins.

## CASE LIFE

I want to load some boattail 180-grain bullets into 1000-yard match loads for the .30-'06. I don't like to load cases which are over ten years old.—OTTO SCHNEIDER, China Lake, Calif.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** I have .30-'06 brass over twenty years old which is better than I can buy today. In fact, the best brass I have ever had was made by Winchester in February, 1912.

## RECHAMBERING SHOTGUN

What would your opinion be on rechambering a 12-gauge Marlin over and under to handle the three-inch Magnum shell for goose shooting?—RICHARD F. WOLFE, Robbinsdale, Minn.

**Answer by Elmer Keith:** I would write the Marlin Firearms Company, New Haven, Conn., and see if they recommend such rechambering of their 12 bore over and under. I believe the action is amply strong and the only question would be if there is enough steel in the side walls of the barrel at the point three inches from the breech for strength. It would make you a 70-yard duck gun with one and ⅝-ounce of No. 4 shot.

## .256 NEWTON

I have a caliber .256 Newton rifle. I would like a little information about this rifle. How strong is the action?—CHARLES HELSING, JR., Horseheads, N. Y.

**Answer by Phil Sharpe:** You have a more or less rare specimen in that Buffalo Newton. I had one many long years ago, right after the first World War, and always greatly regretted selling that .256.

There are a great many different types of Newton rifles. I cannot tell you how strong your action may be, but it should be adequate for modern loads. Brass can be made by necking the '06. Bore diameters vary, but the old Western Cartridge Company 129-grain bullet ran .264. A couple of years ago I chronographed 130-grain original Newton-made bullets with 49.5 grains of 4350 and got an instrumental 60-foot velocity of 2813; 51.0 grains gave 2950; with the 140-grain Speer, 50.5 grains gave 2840 instrumental; and with 150-grain Remington bullets (same charge) I got 2873.

## .45-70 IN DANISH RIFLE

Shooters should be cautioned against using .45-70 ammunition in the Danish rifles being advertised currently in the RIFLEMAN as shooting a .45-70 cartridge. Recently we had the opportunity to examine one of these rolling-block rifles, and a sulphur chamber cast of the chamber indicates that it is chambered for the 11.7 mm. Danish cartridge and not the .45-70. The .45-70 cartridge fits quite loosely in the chamber. The base of the sulphur cast mikes .521 inch in diameter while the base of the .45-70 cartridge mikes only .500 inch. If .45-70 ammunition is used in the rifle, the difference of .021 inch might cause a case to rupture. Though the Danish rifle we examined showed fine workmanship throughout and the barrel was in excellent shape, the firing of .45-70 ammunition in it or in other such arms might result in injury to the shooter.

## RESTOCKING MAUSER 98

I have a Model 98 Mauser 8mm. that I am remodeling. The military stock had a hole through both sides for the recoil lug. I wonder if it is possible and safe to cut off the shank on each end of the lug so that it would fit inside of the new stock instead of going clear through?—HILMER HOLMES, Jamestown, New York.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** When restocking that Mauser, I'd leave out the recoil-plate cross bolt entirely. If you get a proper snug fit between the wood and the


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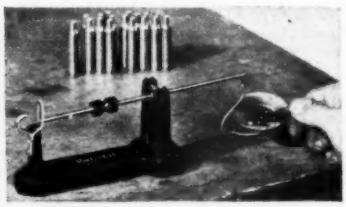

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receiver recoil lug, that's all you need. The cross bolt is fine for rough military service, and I would advise something similar, with neat inlays over the ends, for use when rebarreling to heavy Magnum calibers, but you don't need it for 8 mm. or .30-'06 calibers.

### BULLET-STARTED FIRES

I am sending you a clipping about a fire started on a rifle range by a spark from a ricocheting bullet when some shooters tried target practice at a rock. Could this happen?—Louis M. Stacy, Peoria, Illinois.

**Answer by General Hatcher:** While we have never heard of a fire being started out on the open range by a plain ordinary bullet, we have known of a large number of cases where brush and grass fires have been started by the use of tracer bullets.

We know in particular that this has happened several times on ranges in California where the landscape is often very dry, as you well know. Some fellow will come out on the range and fire a tracer bullet just to see what it looks like and then there is a fire started immediately with all kinds of trouble to follow. So don't fire tracer bullets on a rifle range in dry country or where there is any fire risk.

### 4895 POWDER IN THE .45-70

For use in Winchester single-shot and Model '86 rifles, particularly with hard or nickel steel barrels, we have found that 54 grains of 4895 seems to give about the same point of impact and nearly the same power as 54 grains of 3031 with the 400-grain Barnes or 405-grain soft point factory bullet. We would estimate the velocity to be 1,800 feet or better and pressures below 32,000 pounds. Many members have supplies of this powder.—Elmer Keith.

### JAP RIFLE IDENTIFICATION

Please advise if any of the Jap 6.5 rifles were dangerously made?—F. R. Frane, Orange Grove, Calif.

**Answer by Harold MacFarland:** Some of the last of the 7.7 mm. Japs were poorly constructed but it is only the 6.5 mm. which was cast. If you have an Arisaka with integral tang, it is most certainly cast and dangerous. There were at least three versions of these cast rifles. All were in 6.5 mm. caliber and all were dangerous.

They used two other models which were not Arisakas, which were made in 6.5 caliber, had integral tangs, and which were of fair quality. First was the hook safety Jap, some made in Austria and some copied from the Austrian. This is identified by the safety, which is like a horizontal trigger attached to the cocking head. The other is the Italian Carcano made for the Japs. This also is identified by the safety. To put it on safe, push it in and swing to the left; whereupon it will travel backwards about an inch and relieve mainspring tension. The hook safety job is good; the Italian fairly safe. If you have any other 6.5 Jap with integral tang, don't take a chance on shooting it. Hang it on the wall.

### ITALIAN 6.5 MM.

I have an Italian carbine 6.5 mm. with 18-inch barrel. Is this gun safe to use?—Edwin Koon, Port Orford, Oregon.

**Answer by General Hatcher:** While the ac-

tion of that Italian carbine is not one of the strongest, it is safe to use with Italian military ammunition. However, the ammunition for it is practically impossible to obtain in this country.

While the gun is safe to use with the proper ammunition, it is not strong enough to make it advisable to convert it to any other caliber.

## GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

**Firearms International Corporation,** 6521 Kerby Hill Rd., Washington 20, D. C., announces that the splendid little Sako Short Action Mauser rifles, mentioned in the "Dope Bag" for October, are now coming through with easily manipulated right hand safety.

**The Brandon "70-22" observation scope** features compactness combined with extra light weight achieved through the use of lightweight aluminum construction. External dimensions are only 14½ inches long by 3 inches in diameter and the weight is only 1½ pounds.

The name "70-22" refers to the objective diameter of 70 mm. and the magnification of 22 diameters. With its big objective, this scope has plenty of light gathering power, and the definition is excellent. The field of view at 1000 yards is 36 yards. This fine scope, made by Chester Brandon, Box 126, Montrose, California, sells for only $49.95.

**W. Allen Rhode & Company,** Box 3224, Catonsville 28, Maryland, announces the addition of two new binoculars to their line. One, the 6 X 30 'Beso', weighs approx. 14 oz. which has a field of view of 150 ft. at 1000 ft. It is priced at $75 plus tax. The other is the 8 X 30 'Zenith'. This glass weighs approximately 15 oz. and has a field of view as large as that of the 6 X 30 'Beso'. The price of the 8 X 30 'Zenith' glass is $85 plus tax. Both are twelve element glasses and both are held to extremely close tolerances. They are fully inspected and collimated by the Company.

This company is also selling a silica gel air dryer which can be handily placed in gun cases, cabinets, or other storage places for guns and optical equipment where there is always the risk of damage caused by moisture. This air dryer will last indefinitely due to the fact that the unit can be dryed out when it becomes saturated with moisture. This is accomplished by placing it in an oven for a short time and after it has cooled it is ready for use again. The price of the unit with an airtight container is $1.50 postpaid.

**H. C. Nielsen,** 630 Congress Street, Neenah, Wisconsin, has just returned from another tour of duty with the Navy and is again accepting orders for immediate delivery on his very attractive display cases for NRA medals.

**Leonard J. Perrin and Son,** 3602 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa., sell a well made rod and gun cabinet. The cabinet which will hold nine guns, including two double-barreled shotguns, is constructed of solid cherry wood with glass door, and a spacious drawer on the bottom. It may be obtained in hand rubbed finishes of fruitwood, walnut, mahogany, cherry, knotty pine, or natural birch. The price is $99.50 f.o.b. Pittsburgh.


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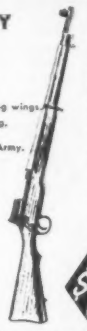

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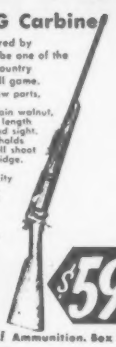

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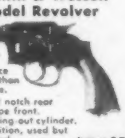

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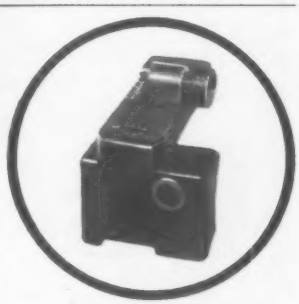

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## BOOK REVIEWS

### WOODCHUCKS AND WOODCHUCK RIFLES

By C. S. Landis

C. S. Landis has mellowed for years in the .22 caliber rifle game, using all variations of cartridges from the rimfire through the various .22 caliber high-power factory loads plus most of the .22 caliber wildcats. He has drawn upon his vast experience to produce a book which is most interesting to the varmint hunter or to any shooter who thinks he might like chuck hunting, as well as the fellow interested primarily in the woodchuck rifle.

One whole chapter covers descriptions and habits of the wily chuck, known in more scientific circles as the Marmota Monax. The areas of our continent in which the animal flourishes will surprise most readers.

Landis reports on his 1947 and 1948 hunts in Canada with a battery of wildcat calibers, of which he gives a shot-by-shot description of kills and misses, plus results of hunting in Colorado with Parker O. Ackley and spare-time hunting in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. His hunting in those years more than covers the lifetime hunting of a dozen ardent chuck hunters' experiences.

Landis has used variations of the varmit rifle from .170 caliber through the entire wildcat and commercial field to the .25 caliber, 6.5 mm., .270, and the .30-'06. He has covered detailed loadings of wildcats with all bullet types and weights, along with a description of performance of each round fired in killing that hard-to-get chuck, very thoroughly. This information alone should be valuable to less experienced chuck hunters.

Landis has described telescope sights, from the small game type through the new varmit type as well as explaining their use on the gun in the field. He describes the stocking of a special varmit gun to individual fit so that it will be tailor-made for the shooter.

The single-shot rifle and the bolt-action are well described, giving their types, possibilities and limits in detail as only a confirmed chuck hunter like C. S. Landis could do.

His associations with Parker O. Ackley, Charles E. Travis, Jr., Eric Farr, Harold C. Wood, Millard M. Wood, Steve Gallts, Frank Wallace, and L. R. Wallack are given in detail. They give a fine "across the board" opinion of most of the wildcat cartridge designs together with their actual use in the field on the chuck.

The book is beautifully illustrated and contains detailed drawings and specifications of cartridges, chambers, and suggested repairs.

Easy reading, the book seems to carry the reader out in the field along a fence row watching for that elusive chuck shot.

To the varmit hunter this volume is a must. I read the book twice to be sure I did not miss one item.—H. S. Gau.

*(Published by Greenberg: Publisher, New York, N. Y. 401 pages, illustrated. Price, $6.00. Available through the NRA Book Service.)*

## THE MACHINE GUN

By Lt. Col. George M. Chinn, U.S.M.C.

Here is without doubt the most exhaustive and authoritative work on the subject of machine guns, their inventors, their history and their mechanisms that has ever appeared or is ever likely to appear. It was written by an officer on duty in the Navy Department, for the Bureau of Ordnance. Thus the author had every opportunity to consult the official records of all departments of the Government, and to gather information from all sources in existence in this country. Col. Chinn made full use of his opportunities, and worked with intensive zeal for an extended period on this absorbing task.

The result is a work as interesting as it is monumental. It has 688 pages in full 8 x 10 letter size, illustrated with over 400 splendid illustrations. The book goes thoroughly into the biography of the various machine gun inventors, and great stress has been laid on the inclusion of actual photographs of the inventors and particularly of their early models.

The author took nothing for granted and as a result, has not perpetuated the many errors appearing in the earlier works on the same subject. In all cases where it was at all possible, source material was consulted.

The writing is in a most fascinating style, and the book is as interesting as it is voluminous.

Such a work, if printed by a private firm would have to sell for an estimated fifteen or twenty dollars, but this fine work bound in Navy Blue Buckram can be had from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for $5.00. That is about the number one bargain that could be imagined in these times of inflation.—J. S. Hatcher.

## MAUSER BOLT RIFLES (Volume II)

By Ludwig Olson

Here is a paper bound book of 109 letter-sized pages that contains the best, most accurate and most complete information on Sporting Type Mauser Rifles that has yet appeared. In the words of the author and publisher, Master Sergeant Ludwig Olson, Ordnance Corps, this second and concluding volume of "Mauser Bolt Rifles" is intended as a reference work for sportsmen, gunsmiths, arms collectors, and gun addicts in general. Together with Volume I, it is intended to furnish all worth-while Mauser Rifle and Cartridge Data.

Volume I covered the strictly Military Mausers, while this Volume II takes up where that left off and goes on to cover the dozens of sporting models built on this famous system, together with very complete ballistic and other data on the various cartridges used by them. It includes some that are not strictly Mauser rifles, but may have some Mauser features, such as the Mannlicher-Schoenauer, the Italian Carcano and others. It covers the various .22-caliber Mausers, then goes on to discuss such variations of the Mauser as the Springfield, the British Pattern 14, the U. S. Model 1917, the Remington 30-S, the Winchester 54, the Remington 721 and 722, the Winchester Model 70, the Japanese Arisaka, the French M-34 and M 36, the Newton rifle, the Savage Model 20, and others.


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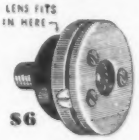


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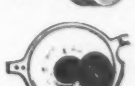

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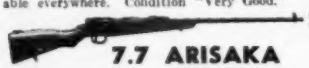

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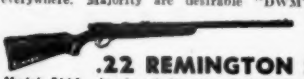

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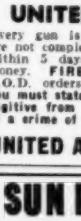

**BEAUTIFUL NEW RESIN PLASTIC OIL-TYPE FINISH—DEVELOPED AFTER 3 YEARS RESEARCH**

This finish is NOT just another gummy, gooey mess to "stack" up on wood. SUN RAY will give any degree of finish desired, from a dull oil-type to a glass-like lustre. Just rub into the prepared wood, let stand for about three hours, and rub off surplus with fine steel wool. Repeat this procedure until the grain is filled, and polish with the hands or cloth. If a high lustre is desired, add another very thin coat. Let dry, and rub down, or polish with rotten stone. SUN RAY does all four jobs in one: Seals completely, fills, finishes and polishes. There is nothing to add, and no whiskering is required. When completed, you have a beautiful finish which will not crack or peel and will last forever under normal use in any climate. May be used on old stocks as a crack-filler and polish. Four-ounce bottle, enough to finish six stocks beautifully, $1.25. Discounts to Dealers and Stockmakers in quantity. Jobbing also open. Made and guaranteed by:

**BLEVINS GUN SHOP**
303 Pine Avenue Fresno 4, California



## MODERNIZE YOUR GUN

***Improve Your Score With Unbreakable***

**Franzite Grips are positively unbreakable—most durable made. Offered for Colt, Smith & Wesson, Hi-Standard, Harrington & Richardson, Iver Johnson, Ortgies, Luger, Mauser and other domestic and imported guns. Wide choice of smart designs in Ivory, pearl, walnut, onyx, agate, black and the most popular target, staghorn and carved grips.**

Franzite GRIPS

***FREE NEW CATALOG***

**sent on request . . . illustrating and describing the Franzite Grip Line. Dealer inquiries invited.**

**SPORTS, INC. (MFRS.)**
5501 Broadway, Dept. A-12, Chicago 40, Ill.


The material contained in this book is voluminous, and it is very accurate and free from those mistakes of fact that mar so many gun books. However, no one should be surprised that the book is so good, for the author is stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and has constant access to the marvelous Foreign Material Collection at that station, as well as to the technical records collected by Ordnance Intelligence. Moreover he had the advice and assistance of Colonel G. B. Jarrett, our very best authority on foreign arms.

The book is an invaluable reference work, and my advice to all who want a good gun library is to get a copy soon, before this volume is sold out, as Volume I has been. Obtainable from Master Sergeant Ludwig Olson, Box 364, Aberdeen, Maryland. Price, $3.50.—J. S. HATCHER.

### 1940-1950 INDEX

An author and subject index to THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN magazine covering the years from 1940-1950 has recently been published. The index is a compilation of all feature articles, as well as all material which has appeared in the Dope Bag, in the RIFLEMAN for the last ten years. Carefully cross-referenced, the index will enable anyone with a file of the RIFLEMAN for those years to locate any one article, or the articles on any particular subject, quickly and simply. Printed in a 52-page RIFLEMAN-size booklet, the index for 1940-1950 is available from Mr. Wesley R. Burrell, Sherwood Farm, Plainwell, Michigan, for $2.00.

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Statement required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) showing the ownership, management, and circulation of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, published monthly at Washington, D. C., for October, 1951.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Editor: Merritt A. Edson, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Acting Managing Editor: John Harper, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Business Manager: L. F. Lucas, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. No stockholders.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are not any, so state.)

None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

L. F. Lucas, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of October, 1951.

Louis Q. Bradley, Notary Public.

(seal)

My commission expires June 14, 1956.

# THE ARMS CHEST

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

**1. Rates:** 25 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. Advertisements *must be accompanied by remittance*, addressed to "The Arms Chest," American Rifleman, made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C. *Insertion will not be made until payment is received.*

**2. Closing Date:** All advertisements must be received with advance payment by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: Jan. 1st for the Feb. issue. Ads received after Jan. 1st and not later than Feb. 1st will be inserted in the March issue.)

**3. All Ads Subject to These Conditions:** We reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

**4. Transactions Based on Good Faith:** Deliberate misrepresentation, or violation of the codes of good sportsmanship and good business ethics, will constitute grounds for refusal of advertising, and may result in disbarment from N.R.A. membership.

**5. Blind Ads Not Acceptable:** Blind ads, with box numbers *only*, will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt and certain delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

NOTE: Postal authorities no longer are required to provide directory service for even first-class mail which does not carry a *complete* local address!

**6. How to Count Numerals, Etc.:** Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith (W. H. counts as one word); H. B., meaning heavy barrel, etc.; W. H. and H. B. are one word) Hyphenated words are counted as two words (example: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

**7. No Responsibility for Illegible Copy:** The publishers are not responsible for errors in printing advertisements, due to illegible copy; type or print clearly all ads.

**8. All Articles to Be Properly Described:** To avoid misunderstandings the condition of every advertised article should be described in accordance with the following definitions, NEW—not previously sold at retail, in same condition as current factory production; NEW—DISCONTINUED—same as NEW, but discontinued model. The following definitions will apply to all SECOND-HAND articles: PERFECT—in new condition, in every respect; EXCELLENT—new condition, used but little, no noticeable marring of wood or metal, bluing perfect (except at muzzle or sharp edges); VERY GOOD—in perfect working condition, no appreciable wear on working surfaces, no corrosion or pitting, only minor surface dents or scratches; GOOD—in safe working condition, minor wear on working surfaces, no broken parts, no corrosion or pitting that will interfere with proper functioning; FAIR—in safe working condition but well worn, perhaps requiring replacement of minor parts or adjustments which should be indicated in advertisement, no rust but may have corrosion pits which do not render article unsafe or inoperable; POOR—badly worn, perhaps requiring major adjustments or repairs to place in operating condition.

**9. WARNING TO PURCHASERS:** The publishers *will accept no responsibility* for *any* unsatisfactory transaction involving articles which have not been described in accordance with the foregoing NRA standards. Purchasers or traders should therefore insist that sellers give clear descriptions of all articles, in accordance with these standards—*before* any transactions are consummated. Purchasers should also request shipment by express C.O.D., *with examination privileges;* the purchaser may (and should) then examine the shipment in his local express office—if unsatisfactory the article will then be returned by the express company to the shipper, at the latter's expense.

10. **The National Firearms Act** forbids the sale of the following: (*a.*) Full automatic machine guns. (*b.*) Rifles and shotguns with barrels less than 18 inches in length or 16 inches in the case of a weapon of .22 or smaller caliber. (*c.*) Handguns such as the Mauser or Luger automatic pistols, when such weapons are equipped with detachable butt stocks, except that all of the above may be sold by a Federal licensed dealer who has paid the special tax required by Section 3260, Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE:—"Barrel length", as it applies to the above, is determined by the insertion of a cleaning rod from the muzzle until it comes to rest against the face of the closed breech.

**11. Fair Trade Laws:** Advertising will not be accepted for articles to be sold in violation of Fair Trade laws, after the manufacturer has advised the NRA that such violation exists.

## FOR SALE

FOR SALE: ARMS LITERATURE — OLD Catalogs—Books—Pamphlets. Send for bargain list and information card. Hugh Smiley, Henniker, 10, N.H.

P-38 MILITARY GERMAN OFFICERS MODel 9MM automatic pistol, good condition, $29.50. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

DISPOSAL SALE HIGH GRADE CAMERAS, lenses, equipment. Leica, Makina, Kalart, Monte Carlo, B-J Press, movie cameras, projectors, flash equipment, many others, some guns, revolvers, really phenomenal list. Don't write unless interested. Otto L. Hankison, 228 Superior Street, Toledo 4, Ohio.

WALNUT BLANKS. RIFLE $1.50-$2.50. Shotgun $1.25. E. D. Bray, Winfield, Iowa.

LARGE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND European antique arms. Send 25¢ in coin for our 19th catalog, issued soon. We buy whole collections or single pieces. Fair prices paid. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass.

ERFURT 1918, SPORTER STOCKED, $135.00. Winchester 54, .30-'06, Fecker scope 4x, micrometer sights, set trigger, $150.00. Both very good, approval. Dr. Clyde Gray, Cloverdale, Indiana.

18-PAGE PRICE LIST OF OLD AND NEW guns, edged weapons, parts, books, antiques for 25¢. Herb Brand, 46 N.W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Florida.

PERCUSSION COLT AND REMINGTON parts. Flint and percussion locks. List 25¢. C. H. Weisz, 100 South Uhle Street, Arlington, Virginia.

ITHACA MODEL 37 TRAP GRADE, 20-gauge pump gun, 28" full choke, brand-new, $185.00. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

OUT-OF-PAWN "SHOTGUNS," "RIFLES," "PISTOLS". Big savings. Write needs, enclose stamp. Virginia Pawnbrokers, Danville, Virginia.

FINISHED STOCKS—MAUSERS—SPRINGfields, $15.00. Browning-Remington autos., $10.00. E. D. Bray, Winfield, Iowa.

ELECTRIC PENCIL: ENGRAVES ALL METals, $1.50, Postpaid. Beyer Mfg., 10511-Z Springfield, Chicago 43.

A TWIST OF THE WRIST! NEW POLY-Choke gives your favorite single nine different degrees of choke, instantly. Free "Wing Shooters Handbook" tells you how. Write today to the Poly-Choke Co., 610 Tunxis Street, Hartford, Conn.

WRIST WATCHES, U.S. AIR CORPS, WALtham, 16-jewel, water and shock proof. Reconditioned. Value $55.00. Special $17.95. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

CALLS, DECOYS AND PHONOGRAPH RECords which teach the art of calling for duck, goose, crow, squirrel and deer hunters. Free catalog. Oscar Quam, 3149 39th Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

FOR XMAS ORDER EARLY. BUCKSKIN gloves. Fine dress—$6.00. Dress Western Roper $4.50. Ladies Doeskin $5.00. Buckskin work gloves $2.50. Check with order only or Money Order. Whitewater Glove Company, Whitewater, Wisconsin.

PRIMERS. IMMEDIATE DELIVERY. LARGE rifle, $8.50 M, small pistol, no tie-ins. Abby, 308 W. 231 St., New York 63, N. Y.

120 PAGE PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED catalog crammed with antique pistol, sword, dagger, etc. values sent on receipt of 50¢. Robert Abels, R860 Lexington Ave., New York 21.

SHEEPLINED SHOTGUN AND RIFLE cases, $7.50. Scoped cases, $9.75. Quote length. Rudolph's, Atchison, Kansas.

ANTIQUE FIREARMS, ACCESSORIES AND parts. All illustrated lists for a year, $1.00. Weisz, 100 South Uhle St., Arlington 4, Virginia.

SERVICEABLE SA COLT PARTS: HAMmer $4.25; trigger $1.50; gate $2.25; trigger guard $4.50; ejector head $2.00; mainspring $2.00; screws 35¢ each; hand w/spring $2.00; .45-5½" barrels, pitted $3.25. 20-shot magazine for .30-'06 Springfield $8.00. Parts for C&B revolvers. B. K. Wingate, Box 154, Carlisle, Pa.

RIFLES, WIN. MODEL 94, LEVER ACTION, in cals. .30-30 and .32 Special, new, $72.15. Immediate Delivery. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

BIG CATALOG, ANTIQUE GUNS, $1.00. 475 photographs, Satisfaction guaranteed. G. B. Hebard, Knoxville, Illinois.

GUN CASES — SOLID CONSTRUCTION, protects scopes, assures accuracy. Custom-fit for Trap, Skeet and Rifle shooters. Write for details and price. Cassell Cases, Box 168C, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

RUBBER RECOIL BOOTS TO FIT ANY rifle or shotgun, value $2.50 each, sale 3 for $1.00. Carryall, new, Gov't. Surplus, large canvas roll Carryall with two web straps and handle for sportsmen, ball players, campers and travelers, value $12.50—special $1.95. Jacobs automatic safety for Remington automatic and Winchester pump shotguns, Model 12, new, value $7.95—Special $4.50. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

GUN RACKS THAT LINK TOGETHER. Buy one or more, in hardwood $5.25, California Redwood $4.25. Pine $3.95 each. High lacquer finish. Post Paid or ask your dealer. Monroe Cabinet Shop, 1371 W. 24 St., Los Angeles 7, California.

COLLECTION OF THE LATE AL BARR consisting of rifles, scopes, loading tools, etc. Send stamped self-addressed envelope for list. Address Box 11, c/o American Rifleman, 1600 Rhode Island, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

NAVY OXFORDS, GENUINE U.S. SURPLUS, finest black calfskin, famous makes, specify size, $7.95. Check or Money Order. (Add 50¢ for postage and handling). AR Rudolph's, Atchison, Kansas.

LARGEST AND FINEST STOCK OF COLlectors' arms in America. Visit our shop or write us your wants. The House of Guns, Morris Plains, N.J.

FOR SALE: WALNUT, CHERRY AND CURly maple gunstock blanks sawed to patterns. L. G. Stockberger, Garrettsville, Ohio.

## PAY YOURSELF A CASH BONUS!

**By selling some of your idle or surplus shooting equipment you can pay yourself a sizable first-of-the-year bonus, in cash.**

**And a little extra money probably will come in mighty handy right about now, to help pay those special Christmas bills!**

**So make up an ad, giving *complete* descriptions of the various items you would like to sell, and send it to the "Arms Chest", pronto.**

* * *

***Final closing date for the February 1952* issue is January 1st.***

**Guaranteed circulation in excess of 260,000!*

## Reloading & Gun Supplies

Now taking orders on

### LARGE RIFLE PRIMERS

Non-corrosive, non-mercuric. $8.30 per 1000. Must be shipped by express.

### SCOPES

UNERTL Falcon 2½X, $48.00. Hawk 4X, $52.00. Condor 6X, $66.00. 1" obj. target, $58.00. 1¼" obj., $76.00. 1½" obj., $90.00. 2" obj., $125.00. Varmint 6, 8, 10X $75.00. Ultra-Varmint, $105.00. WEAVER K8 and K10, $59.50. K6, $48.50. KV, $57.50. K-4, $45.00. K-2.5, $37.50. J-4, $27.50. J-2.5, $22.50. G-6, $12.50. G-4, $9.75. LYMAN Alaskan $65.00. Challenger, $89.50. Jr. Targetspot 6, 8 and 10X, $69.50. Super Targetspot 10, 12, 15 20X, $98.50.

**SCOPE MOUNTS.** Griffin & Howe, $19.50. Redfield Jr., $12.50 to $19.50. Buehler, $16.50 and $20.00. Tilden, $16.50. Mykrom ¾, ⅞, 1, $14.85. O'Dell's Scope Mount for pistol cases, $4.50.

### WILSON SHELL TRIMMER

Compete with 1 shell holder and burring tool, $12.00. Primer pocket reamer, $4.50. Inside neck reamer, $5.50. Cartridge case gauges in following calibers: .220S, .257R, .270 and 30-06, each $4.50. Punch and base sets for removing crimped-in primers (.30 cal. only). $2.00.

**IDEAL EQUIPMENT.** 3hst shell loading sets, 12, 16, 20 ga., $29.50. Star crimpers, $16.50. #310 Tong tools, $11.50. #35 Powder Measures, $12.50. #45 Lubricator and Sizer, $14.50. Full length sizing dies, $3.00. Primer pocket reamers, $2.50. Single cavity molds, $7.50.

### PACIFIC TOOLS

| | |
|---|---|
| Super, complete for one caliber | $42.50 |
| Standard, complete for one cal. | 34.65 |
| Sizing and seating dies with or without crimper | 12.50 |
| Shell holders (except .22 Hornet and .222 Rem.) | 4.25 |
| Auto primer feeds (Super) | 6.50 |
| Extra primer feed tubes | 2.75 |
| Powder funnels .22, .25 and .30 cal. | .80 |
| Powder scales | 8.95 |

REDDING POWDER & BULLET SCALE $11.95

### JACKETED BULLETS

Prices per 100.

SIERRA .224 H.V. 45, 50, 55 gr. Spitzer S.P., $2.75. .224 H.V. 45, 50, 55 gr. Round nose S.P., $2.75. .223 or .224, 40, 45 gr. Hornet S.P., $2.25. .257 cal. (87 gr. H.V., $3.75). (100 gr. H.V. $3.85). 117 gr. H.V., $4.00. .270 cal. (130 gr., $4.50). .30 cal. (125 gr., $4.25). 180 gr. B.T., $4.75. ABC Bullets, .270 and .30 cal. in stock. Same as Sierra prices.

### NORMA AMMUNITION

| | Per 20 |
|---|---|
| 6.5x53 Mannlicher 156 gr. softpoint | $4.60 |
| 6.5x55 Mauser 156 gr. softpoint | 4.50 |
| 6.5x55 Super Match, full patch Spitzer, 139 gr. | 5.50 |
| 8mm Danish Krag (rimmed) 196 gr. softpoint | 4.95 |
| 8x57 Mauser, 124, 159 & 196 gr. softpoint | 3.75 |
| 8x57JR Rimmed Mauser, 196 gr. softpoint | 4.95 |
| 8x60 Mauser, 196 gr. softpoint | 4.95 |
| 9mm Luger 116 gr. M.C. (per 50) | 4.75 |
| 9.3x57 Mauser, 285 gr. softpoint | 5.50 |
| 9.3x62 Mauser, 285 gr. softpoint | 5.50 |
| 9.3x72R Rimmed Mauser, 201 gr. softpoint | 6.80 |
| 9.3x74R Rimmed Mauser, 285 gr. softpoint | 6.80 |

### *Norma Jacketed Bullets:*

| | Per 100 |
|---|---|
| 6.5mm Super Match 139 gr. full metal jacket | $4.95 |
| 6.5mm Mannlicher 156 gr. softpoint | 4.60 |
| 7mm Mauser 156 gr. Spitzer softpoint | 4.80 |
| 8mm Mauser 159 and 196 gr. softpoint | 4.80 |
| 9mm Luger 116 gr. S.P. | 3.95 |
| 9mm Luger 116 gr. M.C. | 3.20 |
| 9.3mm Mauser 285 gr. softpoint | 4.75 |
| 30/06 Super Match (full patch) 180 gr. Spitzer boat-tail | 5.25 |

Norma New Primed Cases (BERDAN) (Available in quantities of 20 or more)

| | |
|---|---|
| 6.5x53 Mannlicher (per 100) | $ 9.50 |
| 8x57 JR (per 100) | 12.00 |
| 9.3x74R (per 100) | 14.00 |
| 9mm Luger (per 100) | 4.95 |

**SEND FOR PRICE LISTS**

DISCOUNTS TO ESTABLISHED DEALERS AND GUNSMITHS

Prices F.O.B. Beverly Hills

In Calif., add 3% Sales Tax

**KERR'S** 9582 Wilshire Blvd. Beverly Hills, Calif.

### BRITISH COMMANDO KNIFE

**$3.00** postpaid, complete with original leather sheath (for belt and boot).

Official Issue

### "FAIRBAIRN" FIGHTING KNIFE

Ideal gift for the service man. Collector's item. Authentic World War II souvenir. Each knife marked, "Made in Sheffield, England." The actual knife used by British Commandos and U. S. Rangers in hand-to-hand combat. Blade, 7". Overall, 12". The most beautiful knife of World War II. Brand new original blueing. May be used as a letter opener. Send Check, Cash or Money Order. Postpaid $3.00 For domestic and overseas airmail, add 80¢ per knife. Calif. residents add 3% state tax.

*Dealers inquire.*

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972 East Colorado Street, Pasadena 1, Calif.

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**ECHO**
**SCOPE SIGHT**
**MOUNT**

We make a honey of a SLING SWIVEL, too, at $1.00 per pair

ASK YOUR DEALER OR WRITE

E. C. HERKNER CO., BOISE, IDAHO

## ADJUSTABLE TIP-UP APERTURES

Sharp Sights Mean Better Scores

Light, durable frame. Fits over other glasses, if desired. Hinged Tip-Up Eyeplate, opaque, shielding both eyes. State shooting eye and hand when ordering.

With Leather Case

**$5.75**

**HAROLD P. WASSON**

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**STEARNS GUNCASES** THE ZIP-STYLED LINE

ASK FOR FREE NEW FOLDER

STEARNS MFG. CO.

ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

## PROFESSIONAL REBLUING

**Mirror—Regular—Non-Glare**

Franchised BLU-BLACK Shop. 3-Day Service. Also Nickel, Silver, Chrome work.

**KEN'S POLISHING SHOP**

7 South First St. Minneapolis, Minnesota

## GAS CHECKS

Cal. .22, .25, 6.5mm, & .30 @ $1.75 Per M Postpaid

Cal. .375, .38, & .44 @ $2.00

For your convenience, also packed 500 for $1 bill

Large and small pistol primers—$8.25 per M

**Free List of Shooter's Supplies**

**WARNER & SON** 2510 Pleasant Valley Altoona, Pa.

## HARD CHROME STOPS PITTING, LEAD FOULING RUST & CORROSION

Amazing new Marker Hard-Chrome process will double the life of your barrels! Proven method makes bores diamond-hard, mirror-smooth. Improves shot patterns. Increases muzzle velocity, flattens trajectory; less wear on lands; preserves accuracy. Barrels will not rust, pit or corrode. Absolutely no tampering with actions or blueing. SHOTGUNS: Sgle. $12.50; dble. $18.50; RIFLES: $18.50. Unless necessary to send entire gun, mail actions & barrels only. 48-hour service. Insured delivery. Hundreds of satisfied customers all over U.S. Bring your guns up to date now! (Not practical for pitted bores.)

DEALERS! BE THE FIRST TO OFFER THIS EXCLUSIVE PROCESS IN YOUR AREA. WRITE FOR SALES HELPS—NO OBLIGATION. Marker Machine Co., Dept. 10, Box 426, Charleston, Ill.

CLIP THIS

## *The* PROOF *of the* PUDDING

——telegram sent to Roy Gradle by a customer hunting in Wyoming.

Using 7 MM Express I garnered two trophy Antelope and one Golden Eagle yesterday. All one shot kills at 200, 373 and 340 of my paces respectively. Monday a 5 point 220 pound Muley also with one shot. Internal destruction without meat spoilage amazing. Heading for Jackson Hole and Elk tomorrow.

John DuPuy.

For Outstanding Big Game Rifles That Deliver That Knockdown Punch With but Moderate Recoil GRADLE'S 7 MM and 300 Express Rifles Are Tops.

*Our CustomBilt Rifles in Express or Standard Calibers are explicitly what the name implies—Custom Made exactly to Owners Specifications.*

**ROY GRADLE**

Riflesmith, 205 W. Islay St., Custom Stocker, Santa Barbara, Calif.

NEW MODELS, 5E, 4E, ITHACA TRAP, Mod. 70's Mod. 721's, 722's, all calibres 99 Savage's. Specify, no trades. Discount to dealers on 70, 721, 722, 94, 99, special, excellent, mod. 43 Bee $49.95. Mod. 12 trap 179.95. Mod. 24, $67.95. Mod. 94, .30-30 $59.95. Mod. 64, .30-30, $79.95. Overly's Gun Rack, Ephrata, Penna.

FREE COPY OF AMERICA'S LARGEST gun list. Published monthly. Write—Shotgun News, Columbus, Nebraska.

ELABORATELY ENGRAVED 721A-06, $200.00. Elaborately engraved Browning Superposed VR 12 Skeet, $325.00. Elaborately engraved 52T Standard complete, $175.00. Winchester 12 magnum, $100.00. All excellent. Albert Arrington, Navy 961, Box 34, FPO, San Francisco.

OUR CATALOG OF EDGED WEAPONS DEscribing and pricing a museum collection of swords and daggers will be sent on receipt of fifteen cents in coin. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass.

NEW HANDGUNS, IMMEDIATE DELIVery, prepaid and insured. Smith and Wesson Combat .22 and .38 Special, $71.50. K22 or K38, $71.50. Military and Police .38 Special 2, 4, 5, 6" barrels, $62.00. Colt Challenger .22, $52.50. Sport or Target Models $70.00. Match Target 4½" or 6" barrel, $85.00. Official Police .38 Special 4, 5, 6" barrel, $65.00. Colt Commander Automatic .38, .45, 9M.M., $65.00. Trade-Ins accepted. Layaway plan. Please send Money Order or Check. Free gun list and illustrated literature. Discounts to dealers. Mann's Sporting Goods Company, 100 Genesee Street, Utica, N.Y.

WINCHESTER MODEL 12 RAISED RIB, trap grade, 12-gauge, very good to excellent, $105.00. Also Model 12, ventilated rib, trap, excellent, $185.00. A. J. Weld, (member), 521 Fourth Street, Redlands, California.

SMITH AND WESSON 2-INCH, .38 SPEcial, excellent, Myres holster, 6 boxes ammo., $50.00. Clyde G. Howell, Yorkville, Illinois.

GOV'T. SURPLUS GOGGLES WITH RUBber frames for industrial use, all sports, skiing, automobilists and motorcyclists. Complete with polarizing lens. Value $4.50—Special $1.29. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

CAMP PERRY, V.G., $40.00. HALL B.L., v.g., $40.00. Free list. Send stamp. Rios, 49 Church, Westfield, Mass.

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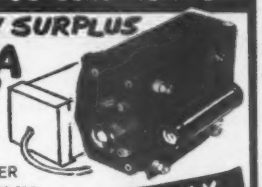

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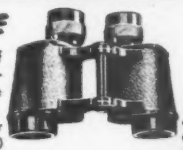

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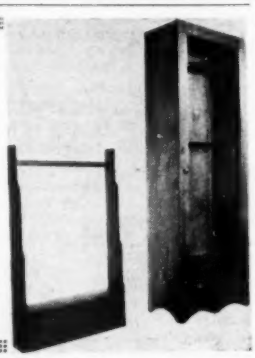

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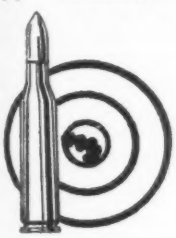

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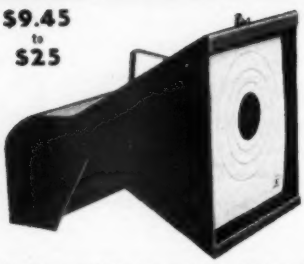

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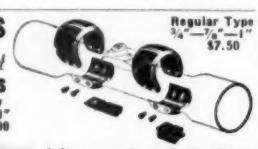

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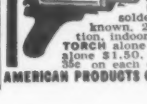

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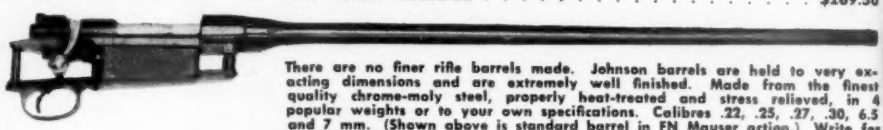

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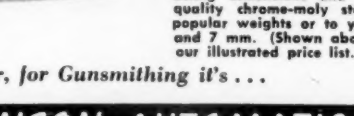

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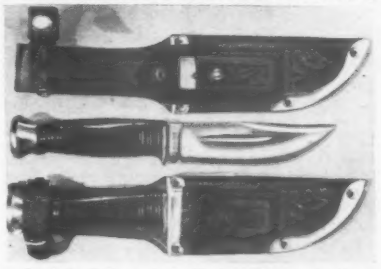

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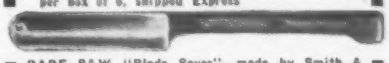

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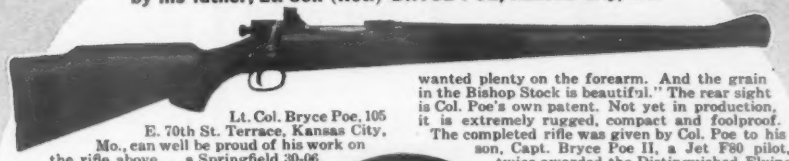

Lt. Col. Bryce Poe, 105 E. 70th St. Terrace, Kansas City, Mo., can well be proud of his work on the rifle above . . . a Springfield 30-06, with barrel cut to 21". He says, "I left a lot of wood on the stock, as I wanted plenty on the forearm. And the grain in the Bishop Stock is beautiful." The rear sight is Col. Poe's own patent. Not yet in production, it is extremely rugged, compact and foolproof. The completed rifle was given by Col. Poe to his son, Capt. Bryce Poe II, a Jet F80 pilot, twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and recently back from 90 Korean missions. Capt. Poe writes, "Bishop stocks are very popular in Japan. In a small Tokyo gunsmith shop I saw 14 Bishop Stocks being finished."

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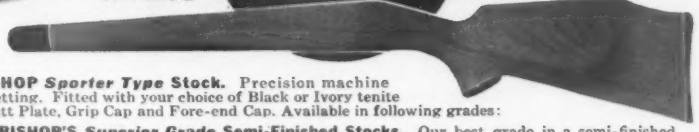

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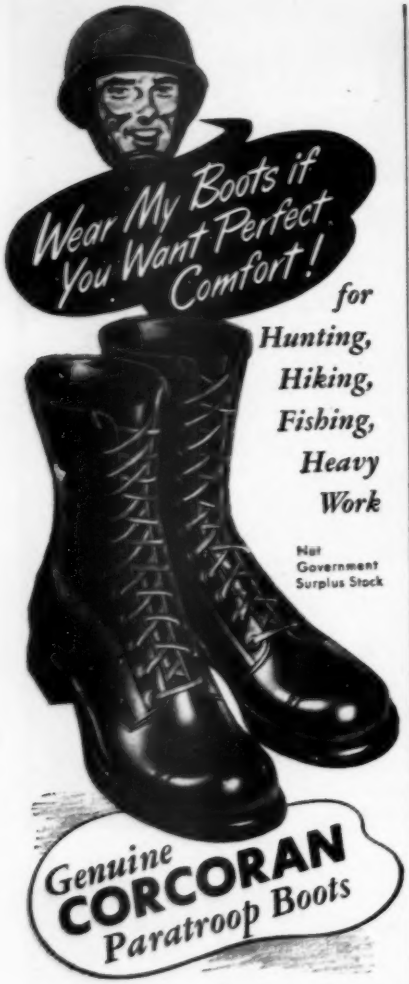
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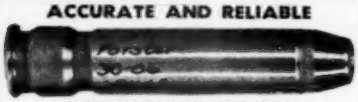

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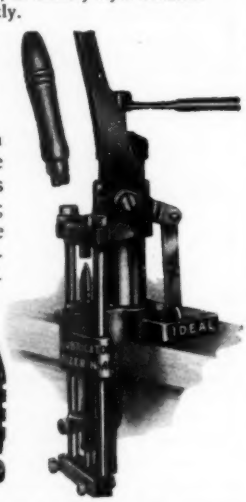


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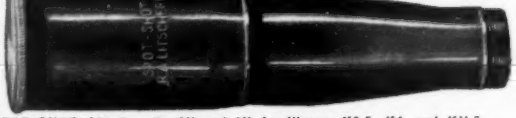


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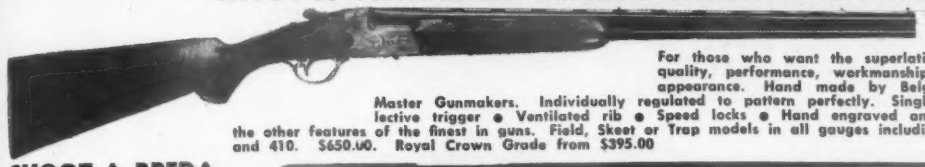

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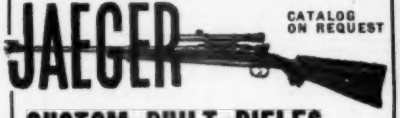

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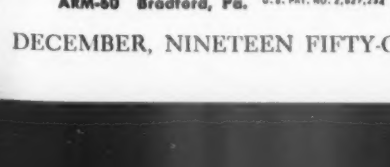


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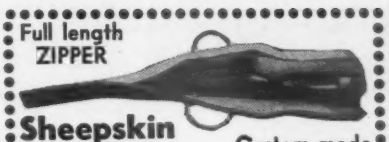

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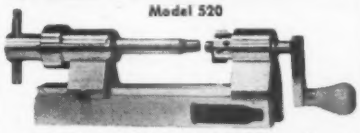

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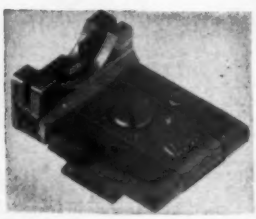

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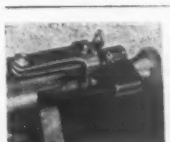

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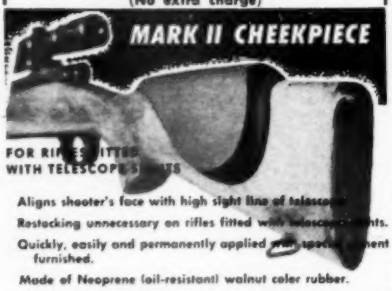


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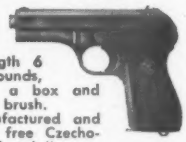

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WANTED: MAUSER .22 CAL. LONG RIFLE sporter in perfect condition. Don Hopkins, 1201 Old Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Spokane, Washington.

WANTED: 28-GAUGE WINCHESTER MODel 12. Give description. E. H. Hicks, 1416 North Adams, Junction City, Kansas.

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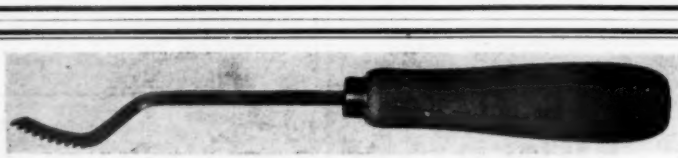

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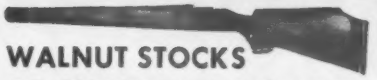

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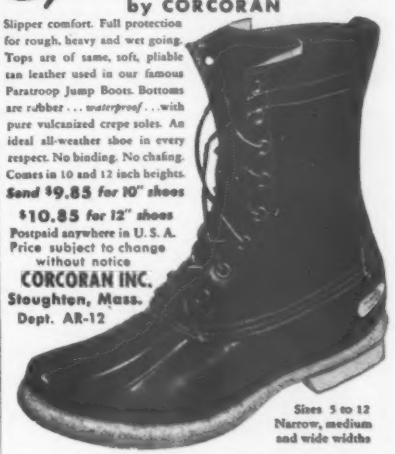

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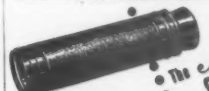

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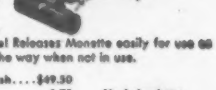

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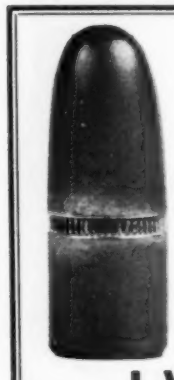
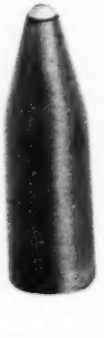


# Merry Christmas



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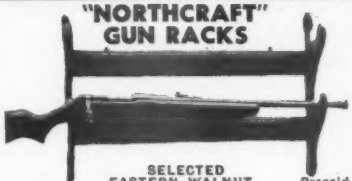

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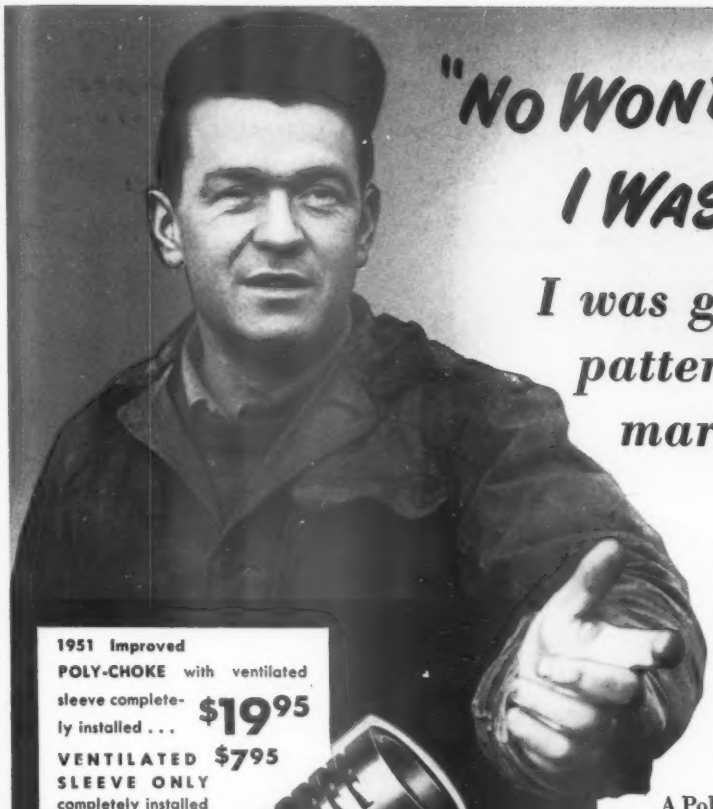

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